

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

## 1. Name

historic North Main Avenue Historic District

and/or common

## 2. Location

Northwest Newton: Part of N. Main, Ashe, Cline, and Deal avenues; Portions of W. Fourth,  
street & number Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth streets. \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Newton \_\_\_ vicinity of

state North Carolina code 037 county Catawba code 035

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Multiple owners (see individual forms)

street & number

city, town \_\_\_ vicinity of state

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Catawba County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Newton state North Carolina

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

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## 7. Description

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**Condition** excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved

date #32 moved in 1912 and 1979

Not a contributing structure.

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**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The North Main Avenue Historic District forms a somewhat irregular T-shape containing about sixth-five acres. Located to the north and west of Newton's commercial district, this primarily residential neighborhood, containing 105 primary buildings, is oriented along north-south avenues and east-west streets. North Main Avenue, which passes through the eastern edge of the district, contains the largest group of buildings, all located in the 400 to 800 blocks. Along the parallel North Ashe Avenue, the district includes the houses along the entire 400 to 800 blocks in addition to #902. The east side 400 block of North Cline Avenue and the 600 block of North Deal Avenue form the bulk of the western boundary. The remainder of the district includes the side 0 block of West Fourth Street, the entire 0, 100, 200, 300 blocks and #403 of West Sixth Street, the 100, 200, 300 blocks and #'s 401 and 409 West Seventh Street, and the 0 block and #'s 123, 205, 211, 217, and 301 West Eighth Street. North Main Avenue (NC 16) is a busy, two-lane thoroughfare; North Ashe Avenue has a parallel parking lane; the remaining streets and avenues are two-lane residential arteries.

Much like the shape of the district itself, the topography follows a T-shaped configuration. A plateau at approximately 1000 feet above sea level stretches along North Main Avenue and to the west where it encompasses West Eighth Street and portions of West Seventh Street. To the southwest, the terrain gently falls to about 970 feet at the corner of North Ashe Avenue and West Fourth Street and the intersection of North Deal Avenue and West Sixth Street. Between these areas, the elevation varies from about 980 feet to 1000 feet.

Landscaping features in the district vary widely from street to street and, in some cases, even along a particular street. Generally the older and larger homes are situated among large and stately deciduous trees. North Main Avenue especially shows this pattern due to the duration of the building activity there. Most of West Sixth Street and portions of West Seventh Street and North Ashe Avenue are similarly landscaped. A vast majority of houses have foundation plantings, and some of the older homes along North Main Avenue are shrouded by Magnolia trees. By virtue of the presence of two public schools along North Ashe Avenue, large open playing fields are prominent in the central portion of the district. A number of additional vacant lots, many of which were once occupied by houses, are scattered throughout the district. Other visual characteristics of the district include the presence of sidewalks on both sides of North Main Avenue and on one side only along the other streets; the almost universal appearance of walks from the street to front doors; and the frequency (about twenty-five percent) in which side drive-ways lead to detached garages at the back of house lots.

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Visual intrusions and concentrations of more modest, and in some cases more recent, residential construction delineate the district's boundary. At the southeast corner of the district modern office buildings and a gas station contrast sharply with the pivotal Beth Eden Lutheran Church and nearby early twentieth-century houses. The right-of-way of the Southern Railroad marks the eastern edge of the district behind the houses on the east side of N. Main Avenue. Two textile mills, a vacant lot, and a parking lot define the north boundary. Modern residential dwellings at the west-northwest corner are located behind the houses along N. Ashe Avenue. Modest, and in many cases altered, houses along the north side of W. Eighth Street and the border along and to the west of N. Deal Avenue and N. Cline Avenue mark the western edge of the district. A large parcel of land framed by W. Sixth Street and N. Ashe and N. Cline Avenues contains a number of buildings--both simple frame houses and sheds of various types--which are in disrepair. This area and the large City of Newton public works facility lie outside of the southern boundary.

In marked contrast to those areas beyond its boundaries, the North Main Avenue District features generally larger, more ornate homes. Because of their relative size the houses in the district tend to occupy larger lots than those outside of its boundaries, although this is by no means true in each case. For example, the large Walter C. Feimster House (24) occupies a small lot in comparison to its size. Nevertheless, both lot size and relatively uniform landscaping provide a context for the houses in the district which does not transgress its boundaries. The five major non-residential buildings in the district occupy large lots which maintain this sense of scale and spaciousness.

A further contribution to the district's unity is the relative uniformity of setbacks. Although some houses occupy much larger lots than others--and are positioned farther back from the streets--generally the setbacks are similar. Some minor variation occurs from street to street although along any particular road there is a great deal of symmetry. While some of the oldest homes in the district do occupy larger lots it is not by any means the rule. Furthermore, there is no pattern to the relationship of age to lot size to subsequent setbacks. Rather, it seems that generally the largest homes of whatever age occupy the largest lots. Their setbacks are also in proportion to their size. This is especially evident in the three 1930s Colonial Revival homes built on N. Main Avenue. Even the two school buildings maintain this relationship; a fact that softens the impact of their physical bulk.

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The North Main Avenue Historic District contains the vast majority of Newton's most intact and historically significant domestic architectural resources. They range from mid nineteenth and early twentieth century brick and frame houses to a variety of twentieth century period revival styles and a large group of bungalows. The majority of these houses are of frame construction but brick and brick-veneered buildings are found throughout the district. Both of the churches, the (former) Fidelity Hosiery Mill, and the two public schools are constructed of brick. Although these various materials are widely intermixed, the overall homogeneity of the district remains intact.

Early maps combined with the form and position of the buildings show how the district evolved. An 1886 map of Catawba County drawn by R. A. Yoder indicates the position of both N. Main Avenue and N. Ashe Avenue. At that time N. Ashe Avenue joined with N. Main Avenue at a point just outside of the present district boundary. Whether W. Sixth Street or W. Seventh Street extended, in the 1880s or 1890s, beyond the house sites which they served is unknown. Unfortunately, Sanborn maps of Newton show only small areas of the district prior to 1924. What they do reveal, however, is the extent to which the land bordering N. Main Avenue had been developed by that date.

The earliest settlement took place along N. Main Avenue, Newton's principal north-south roadway connecting Newton via what is now NC 16 to both North Newton and Taylorsville, the Alexander County seat. Five of the district's oldest homes including the Andrew J. Seagle House (23), Berrier-McLelland House (17), and the Pope-Rudisill-Gordon House (91) were built along this road. Old photographs and local tradition reveal that there were many other early houses along the road. Some of the vacant lots now visible were once homesites while other houses were cleared away or moved for the construction of newer dwellings. For example, the Edward Haupt House (21) and the Junius R. Gaither House (3) were built on or near the sites of demolished older homes while the Louis Schrum House (15), Wilson-Snipes House (12), and Robert B. Knox House (25) were erected after older houses were moved. North Main Avenue quickly became--and remains to this day--the spine of the district.

If the District's early development was concentrated along N. Main Avenue, it was not limited to that location only. In fact, one of the oldest and most impressive homes in the district, the Witherspoon-Killian House (88) was built along W. Seventh Street. It along with the early 1880s Phifer-Bost-Sigman (76) and Finger-Caldwell (44) houses form a small grouping adjacent to W. Seventh

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Street. The early 1880s Henkel-Williams-White House (38) at the north end of N. Ashe Avenue and the 1890s Theodore R. Abernethy House (105), originally on W. Sixth Street, represent additional settlement patterns. For the most part, however, the area west of N. Main Avenue probably remained farmland until the early twentieth century. Subsequent building in these areas has generated the compact cluster of residential dwellings which exists there now.

The oldest house in the district appears to be the Pope-Rudisill-Gordon House (91). Now facing W. Eighth Street and compromised by the extensive alterations made to it, this dwelling originally stood along N. Main Ave. on the site of the Louis Schrum House (15). Built, perhaps, as early as the late 1840s its transitional Federal-Greek Revival style characteristics include the symmetrical two-story three bay front elevation, six-over-six double hung sash windows, center entrance with sidelights, and a narrow boxed cornice. Early deeds reveal that all of the land bordered by what is now N. Main and N. Ashe Avenues as well as W. Seventh and W. Eighth Streets, in addition to a portion of the land north of W. Eighth Street was part of this property as late as 1866. The house was moved sometime between 1901 and 1924 and a new house built on the original site.

The Pope-Rudisill-Gordon house is joined by a second antebellum dwelling, the Andrew J. Seagle House (23). Located on the west side of Main Avenue it is one story in height and has a T-shaped plan that features a temple front main block facing the street. Nine-over-six double hung sash windows, the gentle pitch of the main roof, and the rear door which is framed by sidelights and a transom are its most obvious exterior Greek Revival characteristics. Elements of the transitional Federal-Greek Revival style interior include flush sheathing, two panel doors, and mantels.

The Seagle House had probably been erected just prior to the start of the Civil War on land which Seagle purchased in 1861. When building commenced once again, the vernacular antebellum house forms persisted. In fact construction of the two-story, three-bay single pile house form persisted until the turn of the century. George Berrier erected the first extant postbellum house (17) in the district. This two-story three-bay dwelling has a broad roof overhang, end chimneys, a typical Greek Revival center entrance and now one and two story rear wings. It appears that originally the kitchen was detached from the house; what was probably a breezeway between them has since been enclosed.

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Newton's growing population and evident prosperity in the late 1870s and 1880s account for the continued building activity in the district at this time. At least two surviving houses were built along N. Main Avenue and there were probably others. Those that survive however, have undergone remodeling or been moved. The Gaither Family House (5) was probably an embellished Italianate two-story three-bay dwelling with bays on the gable ends and a rear kitchen wing. Turn-of-the-century alterations include the addition of a center gable and one-and two-story additions to the rear. The Bost Family House (32) was moved to N. Ashe Avenue about 1911, prior to the construction of the Robert B. Knox House (25). It is a traditional two-story three-bay house and features a two-tier front porch, two-story rear wing, and center and rear entrances with sidelights.

In 1878 the First Presbyterian Church (6) was built on the east side of N. Main Avenue. The building has a Greek temple form with corbeled pilasters framing round arched windows. Five-sided transepts (added about 1899) project from each side elevation. A three-stage bell tower replaced a small octagonal belfry. Mellowed with age, the church now radiates a warmth through the red clay hues of its brick walls. A large detached Sunday school wing repeating the architectural devices of the church, was added to the site in 1941.

The cluster of early houses built along or near W. Seventh Street that includes the Killian House (88) was probably completed by the early 1880s. A significant problem in the interpretation of their history, however, is the persistence of Greek Revival details in their construction. The ca. 1883 Witherspoon-Killian House is the most impressive building in this group. Constructed of brick, the two-story, three-bay, double pile house features paired end chimneys, a bracketed cornice, and a 1905 Neo-Classical Revival style wraparound porch with a center bay, two-story porch. Greek Revival interior details--taken from the Practical House Carpenter--which have survived on the first floor include robust mantels with channeled friezes and pilasters, as well as symmetrically molded window and door surrounds with large cornerblocks. Large six-over-six double-hung sash windows and a center entrance with sidelights and transom appear on the Finger-Caldwell House (44). Its two-story, three-bay form includes two-story rear wings which appear to be original. The Phifer-Bost-Sigmon House (76), located across from the Witherspoon-Killian House, has a Greek Revival center entrance,

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bracketed cornice, pedimented lintels, delicate bargeboards and rear chimney. It also retains a vernacular Greek Revival mantel and pegged two, vertical panel doors on the interior.

The three houses discussed above are located on land which appears to have been part of the tract of land which Jacob McGee bought in 1839 and which Sidney L. Yount subdivided in the 1880s. If the houses predate the early 1880s then they must have been moved to these three sites. If this is the case then their builders and original location are unknown.

Two other houses built in this 1880s period are the Henkel-Williams-White House (38) and the Charles H. Mebane, Sr., House (41), both on N. Ashe Avenue. The former's two-story T-shaped plan, bracketed cornice, bay window, and bargeboards convey its Italianate style derivation. However, like the Phifer-Bost-Sigman House there are a number of Greek Revival interior details including a simple vernacular mantel and two vertical panel doors. Numerous interior changes which appear to date from the mid to late 1880s suggests that an older house may have been on this site; perhaps some of its components were re-used in the construction of the present building. The Mebane House is identical in plan and form to the Henkel-Williams-White House. It also has the same fenestration pattern and lintels. This house also appears to have had a wraparound porch but it and many of its other features were changed in a turn-of-the-century remodeling. The Neo-Classical Revival style used in this updating is visible in the pediment with denticulated horizontal and raking cornices, flush board tympanums, Tuscan porch columns, and interior mantels.

As the above discussion has made clear, there was a considerable amount of activity in the district prior to the 1890s. The numerous discrepancies in the documentation of the houses suggests two scenarios: (1) either houses were being moved and/or remodeled quite frequently; or (2) perhaps the local builders and their clients were content with a form and style of construction which, seen on a national level, was twenty or thirty years out of date. Who the specific builders were is uncertain. However, Jonas Bost, a well-known carpenter in Catawba County, is said to have built the Bost Family House (32). In addition, his daughter married W. B. Gaither who was responsible for the remodeling of the Gaither Family House (5). Whether Bost worked on this or any other house in the district is unknown but the possibility certainly exists.

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One house built in the district during the 1890s still survives. The Theodore R. Abernethy House (105) was originally built on W. Sixth Street and then moved to its present location on N. Deal Avenue about 1946. Here a Queen Anne style decorative treatment was applied to the still popular two-story, three-bay, single pile house form. Details include a full width front porch with turned posts and scroll sawn brackets, a second-story balcony over the center bay which is fitted with a balustrade and woodshingles and gable end ornamentation.

The neighborhood which had developed along N. Main Avenue continued to grow and change in the first decade of the twentieth century. A number of Newton's prominent citizens built large, asymmetrically massed houses on either side of the street. Those which survive (the very significant George A. Warlick House was recently torn down) can be loosely described as Queen Anne style buildings although they lack some of the more elaborate or conspicuous features which illustrate the style's mature development. Characterized by asymmetrical silhouettes and full two-story plus attic elevations, the three houses which belong in this group have a number of distinct similar features.

Located at the southern end of the Avenue are the Walter C. Feimster (24) and Patrick O. Carpenter (1) houses. The 1908 Feimster House is the most impressive Queen Anne house in the district. It has a wraparound porch supported by Tuscan columns and a pedimented entrance bay in addition to a two-story octagonal bay window which once had a matching roof. A brick-veneered first story with weatherboards on the second story as well as a colored glass stairhall window are employed in the Carpenter House; they give some sense of the variety of materials used in Queen Anne style construction. The Bacon-Asbury House (10), built about 1905 at the north end of the district, has tin shingles in its gable peaks, a front elevation which contains a bay window and an elliptical window, and two large interior chimneys.

More traditional vernacular turn-of-the-century cottages were still being built in the North Main Avnue Historic District at least through 1910. Many of these houses were one story in height with symmetrical three bay front elevations or triple-A rooflines, while others were composed of a high hip roof central block with a pair of projecting gables over the outer bays. Examples include the symmetrical three bay Cline-Moser House (8), a dwelling remodeled

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in 1912 to its present two-story height with paired gables; the one-story Eli M. Deal House (7), built in 1905 and featuring a triple-A roofline with rear wings, woodshingled gable ends, and originally a wraparound porch part of which survives; and the Hawn-Lemon House (64), a one-story cottage with gable roof bays at the corner of its high hip roof and full width front porch with turned posts and scroll sawn brackets.

A measure of the district's significance as early as the turn of the century can be obtained by noting that Newton's first graded school was built within its boundary. In 1906 the brick Romanesque Revival style school was opened for use. Overbuilt and enlarged in 1935 its early presence in the district had a number of effects on the latter's development. Not only did it have a physical impact by virtue of its scale and the size of the lot, but it enhanced the district's position as perhaps the most desirable neighborhood in Newton. As late as 1948 proximity to the school was given as a reason for moving into the district.<sup>1</sup>

Prior to the United States' entry into World War I, a number of houses, whose stylistic development reflected locally early Colonial Revival interpretations, were built in the district. They were the first renditions in a style that was to become very popular in the district; one that would last in various reinterpretations well into the 1940s. The location of these houses in the pre-war period shows how the district was developing. Of the two located on N. Main Avenue one was a remodeled older house. The already well-established practice of rebuilding the older homes along the street was continuing. Four other houses were newly built on N. Ashe Avenue and three were erected on W. Sixth Street; slowly beginning to convert from open land to the sites of two residences.

Two houses built in this pre-war period can be loosely associated with the Colonial Revival style, although in a way which reflect elements of the Shingle Style. Both the Carpenter-Snyder House (47) and the Shipp-McDaniel House (45) have broad Gambrel roofs which frame their elevations. The former has a cross gambrel roof, a Neo-Palladian window in one gambrel end, and a bay window with Queen Anne windows; the latter has an engaged porch below its gambrel end and three gable roof dormers on each side elevation.

<sup>1</sup>Interview with Mrs. Clarence Hood. The Hoods moved into a small bungalow behind Beth Eden Church in 1948, and Mrs. Hood recalled that proximity to the school was of no small concern to them and their growing family.

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The second phase of the Colonial Revival style which is represented in the North Main Avenue Historic District consists of blocky two-story symmetrical three-bay double pile houses with hip roofs and hip roof dormers. These houses are large, somewhat imposing, and present a more formal appearance in comparison to their earlier neighbors. The pivotal William W. Trott House (14) was enlarged and remodeled to its present form by 1916. Built with a wraparound porch, now partially removed on the front elevation, the house has a pair of hip-roofed dormers, paired interior chimneys, and broad eaves. Completed about 1915, the brick-veneered Rhyne-Gabriel House (66) has a wraparound porch, a block modillion cornice, and a single hip roofed center dormer. The Lee A. Sherrill House (2) is a frame building which resembles the Rhyne-Gabriel House, but is without the detailed cornice.

In its initial post-war phase the Colonial Revival style as built in the district refined the symmetrical three-bay block of the earlier phase. By lowering the pitch of the hip roof and widening, or at least creating the illusion of widening, the principal elevation more emphasis was placed on the horizontal than the vertical. Two representatives of this development are the pivotal Frederick E. Garvin (69) and Hewitt-McCorkle (20) Houses. Both have multiple windows in their three bays, a low hip roofed center dormer, and porte-cocheres terminating at one end of their porches. Although only the Garvin House has a full-width porch, the Hewitt-McCorkle House has a full terrace which carries across the remainder of the elevation. Colonial Revival details appear in the corbeled quoins of the Garvin House and the fanlight and block modillion cornice of the Hewitt-McCorkle House.

Subsequent interpretations of the Colonial Revival style in the district, of which there were many, were more imitative of the Georgian and Federal styles. Characterized in general by their gable roofs, brick veneers, classically derived details and center entrances framed by sidelights and a fanlight, these two-story houses were built throughout the district well into the 1940s. These large interwar houses define the continued prestige of the neighborhood, and their very lavishness and social import on it were genuine factors in maintaining the integrity and handsomeness of the district. They have, in large part, prevented the decline, which so frequently occurs now in turn-of-the-century neighborhoods. The

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representative group includes the Dr. Glenn Long House (19), a 1935 remodeling of an older house, the ca. 1935 Junius R. Gaither House (3), and the district's finest example, the Judge J. C. Rudisill House (26), built in 1939-40.

Built on a Georgian model, the Long House has a broad seven bay front elevation with recessed outer bays and a slightly projecting three bay central block framed by a gable. Located in the same block on N. Main Avenue, but on the east side of the street, the Gaither House is considerably different from the others due to its weatherboard elevations and the trio of gables on its principal elevation. It is five bays wide and has a one-story wing and an elegant Palladian window above the central entrance. The Rudisill House (26) is a well-proportioned dwelling with a number of classical details including a dominant two-story portico and balustrade which rests on tall Doric columns, and a swan's neck pediment over the entrance.

The late Colonial Revival style was also employed in the 1935 expansion of the Newton-Conover Junior High School (33), originally built in 1905. Pilasters and a pediment with block modillion horizontal and raking cornices were placed over the older Romanesque Revival style front elevation, and a similar configuration was carried onto the flanking wings as well as the auditorium facade which fronts on W. Sixth Street.

Although Colonial Revival style houses were built in the district prior to and immediately after World War I, this period of development really belongs to the bungalow house type. As was typical throughout not only North Carolina but the United States, this building form enjoyed an enthusiastic, if shortlived, romance with new home builders. No less than twenty-seven or more than one-fourth of the total number of houses in the district are bungalows. Their relative number is a measure of Newton's post World War I growth. A large number of bungalows were built throughout the city at this time, but the finest group can be found in the North Main Avenue Historic District. Built, for the most part, on available lots in the western half of the district, their size and the quality of construction underline the district's continued attraction for many young families.

Although there is a wide variety in form, the bungalows do share similar characteristics. The list includes broad roofs, expansive porches, broad side gables, brick piers, tapered porch supports, purlin brackets, and multi-pane windows. Their gable

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ends were sheathed primarily in woodshingles. A number of the larger examples deceive the casual observer into underestimating their great size. One glance at the side elevations, however, shows one the expansiveness of the bungalow house form. Both the William R. Abernethy (58) and George A. Powell (61) houses are known to have been built on identical plans (with minor exterior and interior changes). The builders of these two houses have not been identified but the persistent use of near identical plans and details strongly suggest that one or perhaps two contractors were at work. Other bungalows built in the district are known to have been erected by the Yount and Fulbright Construction Company; the firm later became the Yount Lumber Company. One known architect is Q. E. Herman of Hickory. He designed the Schrum-Zimtbaum House (48).

Unlike the more common bungalows, the Robert B. Knox House (25) is closely related to them by virtue of its Craftsman type form. Designed by the Charlotte architectural firm of Rogers and Hook and built in 1912, the two-story house features a brown brick veneer and broad eaves with exposed rafter ends. Its most unusual characteristic however, is the porch which stretches across two bays and has stuccoed piers and a segmentally arched entryway.

One of the most common bungalow designs in the district is one-and-one-half stories in height, three bays wide, has a large center gable roof dormer and an engaged porch. The 1923 Dr. Wade C. Raymer House (9) and the 1922 George R. Powell House (61) are two of the finer examples. Each has weatherboards on the first story, woodshingles above, and shallow bays on one or both broad side elevations where there are also paired windows flanked by smaller ones in the gable ends. As illustrated here, variation in materials was an important feature of the bungalow. The Raymer House is especially noteworthy for its massive river stone porch and porte-cochere piers. Likewise, the pivotal Ralph S. Corpening House (87), built in 1918, has a brick-veneered first story and paired brick porch posts in addition to a woodshingled half story, and side gables framing bays and a symmetrical fenestration pattern.

Variations on the more common bungalow plan appear in the 1924 Schrum-Zimtbaum House (48) with its large attached gable roof porch across two of the three bays, and the gable roof dormer moved off-axis. A number of smaller bungalows including the Wilson-Snipes House (12), and the Calvin C. Copeland House (28), feature an attached front porch often with a hip roof on both the main house

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as well as the porch. Other variants have gable end orientations with full width or wraparound porches, while others still have a large square block capped by broad cross gables. An illustration of the latter is the David B. Gaither, II House (4) which also features a large entrance porch supported by massive round arched brick piers.

One of the most handsome houses in the district is the pivotal Loomis F. Klutz House (42). Constructed about 1927 the house has large cross gables finished in stucco and half timbering, all above a yellow brick first story. A handsome red tile roof and compound columns supporting the entrance porch provide striking decorative richness to this basically Tudor Revival style house.

By the mid 1920s various period revival style homes were being built in the North Main Avenue Historic District. In 1924 George A. Warlick built a house (62) which had a Spanish Colonial flavor in its one-story flat roofed form and stucco walls, but featured Doric porch posts. Thomas C. Clifton erected a house (60) which features a gambrel roof capping a brick-veneered lower story and stuccoed gambrel ends. The Charles H. Mebane, Jr. House (40) is a less eclectic Tudor Revival house in that its massing and detailing are more thoroughly based on English Medieval precedents.

Completing the category of period revival construction in the district is the Neo-Gothic Revival style Beth Eden Lutheran Church (27). Completed in 1929 the brick church building has a pair of crenellated bell towers of unequal height flanking the main entrance, itself detailed with a large gothic arched stained glass window. Buttresses, transepts, and gothic arched windows add to the church's medieval character.

Two additional large brick buildings were built in the district about 1910 and 1923 respectively. The (former) Fidelity Hosiery Mill (31) building is a relatively intact example of early twentieth century mill construction. Two stories in height its features include rows of segmentally arched windows along both stories and a flat roof. Once detached from the main building, the former dye house at the southern end has larger windows and a lower roof. The second building is the two-story (former) Newton Elementary School (43) which was rebuilt to its approximate original shape after a fire in 1930. Its vaguely Neo-Classical Revival style H-plan form includes a limestone entrance surround which sports a full entablature with triglyphs and pilasters below. A small arched balustrade crowns this slightly projecting central bay.

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Since the 1950s a number of intrusive ranch-type houses have been added to the district, primarily where large lots have been subdivided. Unfortunately, a few large and impressive homes which stood along N. Main Avnue have been demolished and replaced with parking lots or the lots have remained vacant. A filling station and new city hall building, although outside of the district, represent redevelopment which threaten the Patrick O. Carpenter House which is sandwiched between them. Neglect and the rental status of a handful of houses threatens their integrity and outright survival.

In summation, the development of the North Main Avenue Historic District reflects the general pattern of growth and change in Newton itself. Houses which date to the town's infancy established settlement patterns and a quality and scale of construction which were followed in each successive historic period. From the beginning the district was the home of prominent citizens, and subsequent generations of homeowners contributed not only to the physical appearance of the neighborhood but to the growth of Newton, the county seat. The overall condition and relative intactness of the houses in the district reflect its ongoing health. In addition, many of the original builders or their immediate descendents still occupy family homes. This has given the district a special sense of time and place.

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Key to letter abbreviations in the inventory list:

- P. Pivotal. Those buildings which have special significance stemming from the level of their architectural development and/or their historical associations.
- C. Contributing. Buildings which are relatively intact, representative examples of their stylistic group, and lend themselves to forming the character of the district.
- F. Fill. More recent vernacular buildings which do not violate the character of the district.
- I. Intrusion. Modern buildings which are incompatible with their surroundings.

- 1. Patrick O. Carpenter House  
427 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1908  
C

The Carpenter House is an asymmetrically massed two-story dwelling which has a (later) yellow-colored brick veneer on its two stories and woodshingles in the gable ends. On the front, west elevation a large gable framing the west-southwest bay crosses two gables--on different places--which project to the north. A partially enclosed wraparound porch abuts the bay and extends in front of the entrance and along one-half of the north elevation (here it has been enclosed for office space). The porch features pairs of tapered posts with vertical panels resting on a low brick wall and a gable introducing the entrance bay. Behind the porch the recessed center entrance is flanked to the north by a pair of Queen Anne windows containing colored glass panes, and on the projecting bay to the south a trio of one-over-one double hung sash windows. A second trio is located above the first, and single windows are arranged off-axis with the other two bays. Wings include a two-story shallow bay with a gable roof on the south elevation and one and two story (modern) hip roofed wings at the rear. Three interior chimneys--two with corbeled caps--survive.

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Patrick Oscar Carpenter (1870-1932) was the son of P. W. and Camilla Carpenter of Lincoln County. A merchant at the P. O. Carpenter store in Newton (which he founded) for thirty-two years (1900-1932), Carpenter previously ran a business in Maiden and had worked in eastern North Carolina for the P. Lorillard Tobacco Company. Carpenter was a director of the Farmers and Merchants Bank. In 1902 he married Miss Cora Powell (1883-1952), a native of Starke, Florida, and the sister of George R. Powell (61) who later followed her to Newton. They bought this house lot in 1908 and probably built here soon after. Dr. Stewart, the present owner, bought the property in 1955.

2. Lee A. Sherrill House  
509 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1916  
C

The Colonial Revival Sherrill House is two stories in height, three bays wide, features a wraparound porch, and is clad in weatherboards. It is capped by a high hip roof which retains its tin single roofing. On the front, west elevation the porch, supported by replacement wrought iron posts, stretches across the entire elevation and one-half of the south elevation where it meets a two-story wing. The center entrance is flanked by one-over-one double hung sash windows; three similar windows are arranged across the second story. A center hip roofed dormer projects from the roof. Two one-story hip roofed wings extend to the rear of the house where the topography necessitated a high brick foundation. There are two interior chimneys.

Lee A. Sherrill (1879-1935) was the son of G. P. and Nancy Sherrill. An employee of the George Moose Implement and Hardware Company, Sherrill bought this lot in 1916 and it is assumed that the house was built soon after. His wife was Miss Ella Bost (1881-1967), daughter of W. P. Bost. They were married in 1908. Mrs. Sherrill lived here until 1965 when she sold the house to the Catawba Realty and Insurance Company. Hubert Parks Reavis bought it in 1965, and the present owner, Ricky Helms, acquired the property in 1984.

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3. Junius R. Gaither House  
603 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1936  
P

The Gaither House is a large and impressive weatherboard Colonial Revival style dwelling, two stories in height and five bays wide. It is perhaps the most accomplished of the group of large late Colonial Revival houses built in the district in the interwar years. A trio of gables on the front, west elevation frame and define the bays. The central portion of the composition has an entrance framed by sidelights over panels and a swan's neck pediment. The entrance is flanked by six-over-six double-hung sash windows. On the second story an elegant Palladian window is set between two small casement windows. Double-hung eight-over-eight sash windows occupy the other bays. A one-story, two-bay wing extending to the north has an engaged porch and two gable roof dormers. Here square porch posts carry elliptical arches. Three large exterior chimneys with delicate corbeled caps rise from each gable end; the one on the north wing has stepped and paved shoulders. A two-story wing extends to the rear of the house where there is a terrace above a two-car garage, a full height brick basement level, and a gable-roof dormer on the north wing. Interior features include a spiral staircase and a mantel with fluted pilasters and a three-part frieze. Junius Robert Gaither (1898-1977) was the son of Joseph Albert and Cora (Cowles) Gaither. He attended Trinity and Catawba Colleges, and in 1921 he married Miss Helen Long (1900-1968). Engaged in the operation of the Ridgeview Hosiery Mills, Gaither was a former president and chairman of the board. An alderman in 1950 he served one term as mayor in 1951. Former vice president and director of the Shuford National Bank, he remained on the board when the First National Bank of Catawba County was organized from the merger of the Shuford National Bank and two others. Gaither was an elder and deacon in the First Presbyterian Church (6), and was a member of numerous fraternal organizations. The house is still owned and occupied by members of the Gaither family.

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4. David B. Gaither, II House  
615 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1922  
C

The Gaither House is a square shaped bungalow unusual by virtue of its cross gable on hip roof and shed roofed entrance porches with their tapering battered supports. One and one half stories in height and three bays wide, the house is clad in a brick veneer on the first story and weatherboards in the gable ends. The front, west elevation has a broad shed roofed entrance porch supported by massive brick piers which carry as round arches to piers abutting the wall behind. Sidelights border the center entrance and a trio of multi-pane casement windows flank it on either side. A trio of windows are located in the gable and on axis with the door. Another porch identical to the front porch, is attached to the north elevation; a terrace connects the two. One story gable and shed roofed wings extend to the rear of the house where there is one exterior chimney. A larger chimney rises through the center of the house. David Belt Gaither, II, the son of William Bost Gaither and Genevieve (Wilfong) Gaither was named for his grandfather. He acquired this property from his father and built the house prior to July 1922 when reference was made to it in the local paper. A former member of the Newton school board and secretary/treasurer of the Citizens Building and Loan Association, he and his wife lived here until about 1940. Later, in 1949, it became the parsonage for the First Methodist Church. Stanley Everett, the present owner, bought the property in 1968.

5. Gaither Family House  
621 N. Main Avenue  
ca. 1880s, extensive remodeling ca. 1900  
C

Two stories in height and three bays wide, the Gaither Family House has a triple-A roofline and is sheathed in weatherboards and tin shingles in the gable ends. The front, west elevation has an attached porch across its full width, and it features a gable over the entrance bay; a sunburst decorative panel is located in the

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tympanum. One-over-one double-hung sash windows are arranged across the second story. A pair of attic windows in the gable peak which are set below another sunburst panel form a vaguely Palladian arrangement. Numerous additions to the rear of the house include two-story gable roof and one-story shed roof ells. Rectangular bay windows with bellcast roofs are attached to both the north and south elevations. There is one interior chimney and a single exterior chimney. The interior features a closed string staircase with a paneled and chamfered newel post, turned balusters, and one inter-story landing. Sheathed wainscoting carries above the inner string. A six-panel front door has roundels in the three small panels below the window. The additions to the rear show typical turn-of-the-century detailing including horizontal panel doors. David Belt Gaither (1812-1895) was the son of Lebetious and Rebecca (Baggerly) Gaither. David had been postmaster in Statesville from 15, January, 1842 to 26, July, 1844. Sometime thereafter but prior to 1851 he moved to Newton where he was postmaster between December 19, 1859 and September 21, 1865. (Gaither was buying land in this area by 1851.) He operated a general store in Newton, was a stockholder in the Western North Carolina Railroad, and had extensive landholdings which he farmed. In 1846 Gaither married Mary Melinda Angeline Bost (1823-1902), daughter of Jonas Bost. Jonas Bost was an important carpenter in Catawba County, and it is said that he built this house. David's son William Bost Gaither (1864-1952) and his wife Genevieve (Wilfong) Gaither (1867-1932) next occupied the house and made substantial alterations to its form to accommodate their large family. This would have included the front dormer, decorative sunbursts, and most of the rear additions except for the one-story kitchen wing which would have been original. These are probably turn-of-the-century modifications. The present owner and occupant, Miss Belle Gaither (1909- ), is William's daughter. Her brother David Gaither and his wife also live here.

6. First Presbyterian Church  
699 N. Main Ave.

1878, later additions in 1894 and 1941, sanctuary remodeled 1951

P

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The First Presbyterian Church is a small but well designed common bond brick edifice revealing in its appearance a synthesis of the Greek and Romanesque Revival styles. In its basic massing the church has a Greek temple form less the portico and with the addition (1894) of bay-like transepts. A later three-stage belfry and an octagonal spire crown the roof. The front, west elevation is divided into three bays by the use of brick pilasters. Two round arched doors flank the center round arched stained glass window. A corbeled dentil string carries between the pilasters and below the broad entablature and raking cornice. A trio of round arched attic vents are located in the tympanum. There are gable end returns. The dentil string and entablature stretch around all but the rear elevation and meet pilasters at each of the four corners. Six round arched windows are located on both side elevations (one in each bay) flanked by single windows. Both transepts are capped by an octagonal roof which is lower than the principal gable roof ridge. The belfry, a 1951 replacement of the original octagonal steeple, has two squat lower stages and a taller upper stage. An octagonal base is set at the bottom of the copper-clad spire. A lower two-bay choir chamber extends across the rear elevation and it is capped by a low hip roof. The interior features include molded door and window surrounds, paired seven horizontal panel doors at the entrances to the nave in addition to large bracketed rectangular openings leading to the transepts and the rear alcove. The gently curved pews are detailed with round arches on their outer supports, and the altar is set below a segmental arch leading to the choir chamber behind. A small one-story addition connects the sanctuary to the large two-story brick Sunday school addition built in 1941. It imitates the design motifs of the older section in the demarcation of bays with pilasters and round arched windows, as well as the nearly identical gable ends. The original diamond pane windows were replaced with memorial stained glass windows in 1951. The First Presbyterian Church was organized in June 1858 with the assistance of Jesse Rankin, an Evangelist for the Presbytery of Concord. Charter members include Ezekiel and Sarah Wilson, Harriett Berrier, John Thomason, Hiram Lowrance and Margaret Smythe. The small congregation met in private homes and later made use of the old Beth Eden Lutheran Church until 1878. By that time the present church building had been completed on land given to the congregation by W. B. Gaither [see the Gaither

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Family House (5)]. The printed church history makes no mention of who the builders were. There are a number of church buildings in Catawba County which follow the general form of the Presbyterian Church but their builders are also as yet unknown. In 1899 the church was remodeled and expanded with insurance money collected after the parsonage had burned. This is probably the date when the transepts were added. In 1858 the congregation formed a Ladies Aid Society. Rankin had left Newton prior to the Civil War and his successor was the Rev. J. D. Wilson who apparently stayed on through the war. The list of subsequent pastors includes R. B. Anderson, D. A. Monroe, Rev. J. A. Ramsey, Rev. W. T. Matthews, Rev. W. A. Murray, Rev. J. A. Gilmer, and the Rev. R. A. Lapsley, Jr.

7. Eli M. Deal House  
731 N. Main Ave.  
1904  
P

The one-story three-bay turn-of-the-century Deal House has a triple-A roofline and numerous gable roof wings which extend to the rear. The house is sheathed in weatherboards and diamond-cut woodshingles in the gable ends, and, for the most part employs four-over-four double-hung sash windows. A flat roofed hood over the entrance has replaced the original full porch, although the extension of it along the south elevation remains. There it is supported by turned porch posts and scroll-sawn brackets. A concrete slab replaces the wooden floor. The rear elevation presents a varied silhouette by virtue of the four gable roof wings and the smaller shed roofed wing. There are two interior chimneys. Of particular note here is its remarkably intact interior. Doors, window and door surrounds, wainscoting, and the mantels all survive and are finished in a dark stain. The molded surrounds have corner blocks, and the doors have three panels at the entrances and five panels elsewhere. Sheathed wainscoting is found in all but one of the principal rooms. Mantels in the living room, den and dining room--the latter with an overmantel--have paneled friezes, mantel shelves, and either chamfered and fluted pilasters or turned half columns. Eli Milton Deal (1870-1947) was the son of Marcus Sylvanus and Jane (Wilson) Deal. A graduate of Catawba College, Eli was a veteran of the Spanish-American War and was associated with one of the

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local Newton banks. He also operated a bottling plant and an ice and coal business. In 1902 he married Tutie Mae Post (1874-1927), a native of Lewiston, Maine. Their son Marcus Everette Deal (1904-1985) and his wife, Mary Virginia Black (1910- ) still own this house which Eli built in 1904.

8. Cline-Moser House  
809 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1900, 2nd story 1912  
C

The Cline-Moser House, a two-story frame dwelling, was once a handsome turn-of-the-century house as can be seen in the asymmetrical plan and decorative, round attic vents which survived the substantial remodeling of the house and the installation of asbestos siding. The three bay single pile house has two front gables intersecting the main side gable roof, and a full width front porch. The porch is supported by four square posts resting on a low brick wall. A small gable projecting from the hip roof of the porch is supported by four square posts resting on a low brick wall. A small gable projecting from the hip roof of the porch introduces the central entrance. One-over-one double hung sash windows flank the door, and three similar windows are employed on the symmetrically composed second story. Round attic vents in the gable peaks have sawn ornamentation. One interior chimney survives, and a one-story wing extends to the rear of the house. Inspection of the interior has not been made. Robert William Cline (1876-1950) was the son of Cicero and Sulina Cline of the Startown area of Catawba County. He and his brother Albert Cline operated a store in Newton for a number of years. Later he sold Ford automobiles with the Hewitt Motor Company. In 1904 Robert Cline married Pearl Hewitt, daughter of J. P. and E. E. Hewitt. They built a one-story house on this lot about 1900 and added a second story in 1912 at a cost of \$500. In 1947 Grady Vestal Moser bought the house which is still occupied by his wife.

9. Wade C. Raymer House  
815 N. Main Ave.  
1923  
P

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The Raymer House is one of the finest bungalows in the North Main Avenue Historic District. It was built in 1923 by the Yount and Fulbright Construction Company for Dr. Wade C. Raymer. One and one-half stories in height and three bays wide, the house features an engaged porch terminating in a porte-cochere and a large center gable roof dormer. The building is sheathed in weatherboards and woodshingles. The porch and porte-cochere are supported by massive river stone piers at the corners and two iron posts on short piers. Similar materials have been employed in the low wall which enframes the porch. The porch itself is paved with two-color octagonal tiles. Bordered by sidelights, the center entrance is flanked by double-hung sash windows which employ Queen Anne style upper sash. Purlin brackets and four double-hung sash windows detail the dormer which has both weatherboards and woodshingles. Shallow shed roofed bays are attached to both the south and north elevations, one-story gable and shed roof wings are located on the rear elevation as is a gable roof dormer. Additional features of the house include its three interior chimneys, purlin brackets and exposed rafter ends. The house's interior features typical bungalow window and door surrounds showing a wide flat profile. The four surviving mantels show Colonial Revival characteristics including fluted pilasters and denticulated cornices. French doors lead from the parlor to the living room. A simple slat balustrade and a large square newel post adorn the closed string staircase. Wade Coleman Raymer (1892-1959) was a native of Iredell County, the son of Charles Augustus and Laura (Little) Raymer. He attended Statesville Academy, Lenoir-Rhyne College, and Atlanta Southern Dental College (now Emory U.) where he received his D.D.S. in 1917. Raymer joined the Dental Reserve Corps in World War I and began his practice in Catawba in 1917. In 1919 he moved to Newton where he operated his practice for thirty-five years. A member of Beth Eden Lutheran Church, Raymer was a Mason and Kiwanian. In 1917 he married Mary Maude Smith (1890-1981) of Catawba. Their two daughters Frances and Helen Raymer, both former school teachers, still occupy the house.

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10. Bacon-Asbury House  
825 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1905  
C

The Bacon-Asbury House is a large two-story Queen Anne style dwelling which is sheathed in weatherboards and tin shingles in the numerous pent gables. Its front, west elevation has a projecting two-story wing--featuring a bay window capped by a pent gable roof--at the north corner, a smaller gable roof bay in the center of the elevation, and a recessed wall plane detailed with an elliptical window. A hip roofed porch containing large brick posts carries across two-thirds of the front and one-half of the south elevations. Pent gable roofs cap a two-story wing at the rear and three of four bays which project from the north elevation; a third sprouts from the hip roof on the south elevation. One story hip and shed roof wings extend to the rear of the house. Additional details of the composition include its Queen Anne upper sash, two interior chimneys built of a yellow brick, and the two console brackets which lie below the large pent gable on the front elevation. Interior features of the house include a typical Neo-classical Revival style mantel with a mirrored overmantel in the parlor and wainscoting in the hall. William E. Bacon is said to have built this house about 1905. Bacon was listed in the 1902 North Carolina Yearbook as superintendent of the Newton Cotton Mills. How long he was associated with the mill is not known and additional biographical information has not been uncovered. During the 1920s Fred Yount, brother of Wilfong Yount (11) lived here. The house's current, long-time owner is Frank Asbury who purchased the property in 1946.

11. Wilfong Yount House  
832 N. Main Ave.  
c. 1918  
C

Two stories in height and three bays wide this large vacant and now deteriorating brick veneered "square house" features a wraparound porch. The porch extends across the front, east elevation and along one-half of the north elevation. Ornate

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replacement wrought iron porch posts which rise from a high brick wall support the low hip roof. Behind the porch the center entrance is framed by sidelights and a transom, and flanked by large double hung sash windows with Queen Anne upper sash. A pair and a trio of these windows occupy the second story. The house is capped by a low hip roof which has a hip roofed dormer on the front elevation. One story wings extend from the south and rear elevations. One exterior chimney on the south elevation and a single interior chimney are original while a massive chimney on the rear wing is a later addition ( as is that portion of the wing to which it is attached). Local sources maintain that this house was built about 1917 or 1918 by J. Wilfong Yount (1893-1932). He was the son of John P. and Mattie Yount who lived diagonally across the street in a house since demolished by Carolina Mills. Yount's father is said to have operated a mill, but whether Wilfong was employed there has not been determined. In 1931 Yount married Anne Gray (1898-1966), daughter of Sterling Price and Margaret (Middleton) Gray. Mrs. Yount was a school-teacher, and after Yount's death she married a Mr. Anderson (his first name has not been identified). Owners of the house immediately after her death have not been researched although Carolina Mills, the present owner, bought the property in 1974.

12. Wilson-Snipes House  
826 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1917  
C

One story in height and capped by a high hipped roof, this modest bungalow is three bays wide and has an attached porch which dominates the front elevation. The building is sheathed in weather-boards. The porch, which stretches across all but a small portion of the elevation, is supported by four brick posts and has a high hip roof. A brick wall frames the high porch. Paired double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash flank the central entrance. There are two interior chimneys. The house was built about 1917 by Mrs. Richard Wilson, widow of Richard Wilfong Wilson (1853-1900). She and her children lived here, and then it

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was occupied by her son John Wilson. Samuel Snipes, the present owner/occupant bought the house in 1954 but he and his wife had been living here since 1945. An older house stood at this site but was moved (and later demolished) to W. Ninth Street prior to the construction of this dwelling.

13. Winnie Warlick Simpson  
816 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1917  
C

The Winnie Warlick Simpson House is a one-and-one-half story, three-bay double pile bungalow. Sheathed in wide aluminum siding, it has a large center gable roof dormer and an engaged porch. Stretching across the front, east elevation the porch is supported by four square posts which rest on a low brick wall. Sidelights border the center entrance and large double-hung sash windows occupy the outer bays; their upper sash have narrow vertical panes. Four windows are located in the dormer, and purlin brackets are used throughout the composition. Unlike many bungalows the rear roof plane is foreshortened and not as expansive as it is on the front. Gable roof and shed roof wings are attached to the rear elevation, and three interior chimneys are original. A shed roofed wall dormer also contributes to the varied silhouette of the west roof plane. In addition, a shallow rectangular bay window with a shed roof is attached to the south elevation. Winnie Warlick Simpson (\_\_\_\_-1984) was the daughter of prominent Newton industrialist and Mayor George A. Warlick; her father built the house for her. Educated in the private school of Mrs. Matt Cochrane, Winnie later attended Salem College where she majored in piano and organ and was a member of numerous clubs and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. In 1968 Salem College established the "Winnie Simpson Music Prize" in her honor. Her first husband, whom she married in 1911, was Clyde Felton Rowe (1889-\_\_\_\_). In 1928 she married Claude A. Simpson (1894-\_\_\_\_). She moved from this house about 1950 to a small house (100) on N. Deal Ave.

14. William W. Trott House  
802 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1897, later addition  
P

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The pivotal Trott House is a two-story, three-bay Colonial Revival style frame house sheathed in weatherboards and capped by a hip roof. Its original wraparound porch across the front, east elevation was removed prior to 1932 and replaced by an entrance porch. This flat roofed porch has a segmental arch between paired Doric columns and a balustrade with turned balusters connects the columns. Sidelights and a transom enframe the center door. Large tripartite openings with nine-over-one double-hung sash windows bordering larger nine-over-ones occupy the outer bays. Single windows are symmetrically arranged across the second story. Two hip roof dormers with multi-pane windows are visible on the elevation. Portions of the original wraparound porch survive on both the north and south side elevations whereas side porches, the latter abuts a two-story wing at the southwest corner. Two interior chimneys survive. Extensive remodeling of the interior in the Colonial Revival style was completed by 1916. During that time the present darkly stained open string staircase was added, the Neo-Classical mantel and Craftsman style mantels were added to the parlor, living and dining rooms respectively, and the French doors leading off of the hall replaced the older, narrower openings. Sheathed wainscoting was placed in the dining room, and the entire second floor was added at this time. William Walker Trott (1866-1950) was the son of W. H. and Nancy (Hart) Trott of Rowan County. Trott was a farmer in Catawba County and bought this and adjacent property bordering North Main Avenue and W. 8th St. from Charles Zanghoff in 1897. He married Tululah Wilson (1867-1958), daughter of Matthew Melchezabek Wilson (1823-1888) and Catherine Adeline (Wilfong) Wilson (1829-1887). She grew up on her father's farm in Catawba County, a property whose seat is one of the county's finest Federal style homes. Two mantels from that house are installed in upstairs and downstairs bedrooms here. The Trotts raised four sons and one daughter in the house in Newton, and two of them, Burdett Trott and his sister Mrs. Daniel C. Corriher, now occupy the house.

15. Louis Schrum House  
724 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1923  
C

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The Schrum House is a two-story brick-veneered dwelling which is three bays wide and is capped by a hip roof. It has a full width front porch. Six fluted columns with Scamozzi capitals support the hip roofed porch. Behind the porch the central entrance is bordered by a transom and sidelights, and flanked by trios of nine-over-one double-hung sash windows; the outer two are narrower than the central one. On the second story paired windows are positioned in the outer bays and a smaller pair in the center. Originally a dormer projected from the roof on the main, east elevation but it has been removed. The broad eaves, which carry around the house are detailed with modillion blocks. An exterior chimney on the north, side wall rises to the east of a shallow bay, and one story wings are attached to the south and west elevations. The interior could not be examined. Louis Schrum, the son of Edward P. and Lura D. (Plonk) Schrum, built this house about 1923-24. Little biographical information has been uncovered about Louis as it appears that he moved to Greensboro not a great many years after the house was built. Used as a teacherage and occupied by a number of owners, the house is now apartments.

16. Dr. James D. Cochran, Sr. House  
720 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1922  
C

One and one-half stories in height and three bays wide, this large bungalow has a center gable roof dormer and an engaged wraparound porch. The building is sheathed in weatherboards and woodshingles. Seven square posts resting on brick plinths support the porch which stretches across the front, east elevation and along one-half of the north elevation. Behind the porch the center entrance is flanked by double-hung sash windows which have narrow vertical panes in the upper sash. The dormer, which is clad in weatherboards and woodshingles, has four windows and purlin brackets. Additional features include the two interior chimneys, purlin brackets, and exposed rafter ends. A shallow shed roofed bay is attached to the south elevation and one and two story intrusive wings extend to the rear, although a large partly concealed shed roofed dormer is probably original. There are no significant interior features.

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Dr. James Daniel Cochran (1874-1957) was reared at the family home near the Catawba River which is known as the Perkins House, an early Federal style home listed in the National Register of Historic Places. He was a graduate of the University of Maryland Medical School. His wife was Nell Hester (1887-1975), a native of Roxboro. Their son Dr. James C. Cochran, Jr. and his wife still own and occupy the house which was built by Mr. G. C. Little a year or two before the Cochrans bought it in 1925.

17. Berrier-McLelland House  
710 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1866  
C

The Berrier-McLelland House, built about 1866 by George Berrier, is one of the three oldest (and probably the most intact of the three) houses in the North Main Avenue Historic District. Two stories in height and three bays wide, this frame house is sheathed in weatherboards. It has an attached porch (with early twentieth century Tuscan columns) across its front, east elevation and two single shoulder stepped end chimneys. The two leaf two panel doors of the center entrance are bordered by a typically vernacular Greek Revival style transom and sidelights. Nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows flank the entrance and smaller six-over-six windows are symmetrically arranged across the second story, below the broad eaves. What appears to be the original gable roof kitchen wing stands to the rear of the house at the west-northwest corner. Subsequent additions of one and two story shed roof wings which abut the main block connect it to the kitchen and obscure the original configuration. Two exterior chimneys positioned at the house's gable ends appear to be original. Numerous surviving interior features show the house's vernacular Greek Revival style characteristics. These include two panel pegged doors, an open string staircase with delicately turned newels, and a slat balustrade, flat window and door surrounds with simple cornerblocks, one mantel (not unlike those found in other houses in the district which were built in the early 1880s), and two additional pairs of two leaf two panel doors. Other features include wood floors made of heart pine and hand-planed flush boarding on the walls and ceilings of the second story. The house was apparently built by George Berrier (1814-\_\_\_), a Newton

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merchant who purchased the property in 1866. Harriett Berrier, George's wife, was one of the organizers of the First Presbyterian Church (6). Mary Berrier (1850-1942), George's eldest daughter, married James H. McLelland in 1883 and they occupied the house until their deaths. McLelland (1851-1917) was a bookkeeper with the Newton Cotton Mill, and was the Catawba County Register of Deeds between 1902 and 1906. Subsequently he was the Town of Newton clerk and treasurer. In 1945 Mrs. McLelland's heirs sold the property to Ruby and Ralph Sharpe. They lived here until their deaths; their heirs sold it in 1980 to the present owners Kevin and Karen Driscoll.

18. Eli Warlick House  
704 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1922  
C

One and one-half stories in height and three-bays wide, the Warlick bungalow has a brick veneer on the first-story and replacement wide aluminum siding above. The front, east elevation is dominated by the broad gable roof dormer which spans the elevation. It holds three windows below a shed roofed awning. A bracketed pent carries across the front elevation. The central entrance is flanked by large double hung sash windows which have narrow vertical panes in the upper sash. A flat roofed porch with replacement wrought iron supports stretches along one-half of the south elevation; a gable roof dormer and a shed roofed wing are located on the rear elevation. Eli Warlick, a textile worker, was the son of George A. Warlick founder of the Newton Enterprise, a paper which has been published under successive names since 1879. Warlick's father lived in an impressive home across Main Ave. from where he built this house, but it has been demolished. Warlick purchased the lot on which this house stands in 1922, and it is thought that the house was built soon after. His brother George A. Warlick and sister Winnie (Warlick) Simpson also built houses (62, 13) in the district. Little additional biographical information has been uncovered about this member of the family.

19. Dr. Glenn Long House  
630 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1910, overbuilt 1935  
P

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Built over an older house, the present Colonial Revival building is a two-story, seven-bay brick-veneered composition. The front, east elevation features a pediment over the three middle bays and slightly recessed flanking outer bays. A fanlight and sidelight frame the center entrance all of which are set below a shallow pediment with an elliptical arched tympanum. Small paired double-hung sash windows are located above the entrance on the second story, and single six-over-six double-hung sash windows are used elsewhere. There are two large interior chimneys and a bulls eye window in the main pediment. A gable roof porch on the north elevation is supported by ten square posts carrying segmental arches. The porch stands east of a bay window. One and two story gable and hip roofed wings extend to the rear of the house. The hip roofed wings are detailed with pilasters and segmental arches. An engaged porch is located at the house's southwest corner. Interior features include corner china cabinets and paneled wainscoting in the dining room, a fully paneled den with darkly stained wood, and an open string staircase with one inter-story landing. The newel post terminates in a volute. Two mantels have Neo-Classical detailing in their paneled pilasters, denticulated cornices, and medallions on the frieze. Dr. Glenn Long (1887-1961) was the son of J. U. and Laura (Yount) Long of Catawba. He attended Catawba College and the North Carolina Medical College at Charlotte. Long established his practice in Catawba in 1912 but moved it to Newton in 1916 where he took over the practice of his brother-in-law Dr. T. W. Long. During his forty-nine year practice Dr. Long delivered 3,651 babies. One of the organizers and former president of the board of the Catawba Hospital (1939), he was a member of the Catawba County Board of Health, Catawba County Medical Society, and the American Medical Society. A member of various fraternal organizations Long was a director of the Shuford National Bank and the Ridgeview Hosiery Mills. In 1918 he married the former Cecily Brawley (1900-1983), a native of Greenville, South Carolina. Active in the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Mrs. Long was president of the Catawba County Chapter for fifty years between 1933 and her death in 1983. She was President-General of the U.D.C. from 1951-53. A documentary photograph shows that an older Neo-Classical Revival house was once located on this site. Local tradition maintains that it was built by a sherriff Blackwelder, but this has not been confirmed. Fred E. Garvin, who later built a house (63)

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on W. Sixth St. was said to have been born in 1872 in this house, but the dates would not appear to coincide. It may be that the present building is in fact the third one on the site. Blackwelder's house was overbuilt in 1935 into the present Colonial Revival form with plans drawn by Robert L. Clemmer of Hickory.

20. Hewitt-McCorkle House  
614 N. Main Ave.  
1920  
P

This impressive brick-veneered Colonial Revival house is two stories in height, three bays wide and has a low hip roof and a porch which terminates in a porte-cochere. The covered porch stretches across the front, east elevation from the entrance bay to the porte-cochere. The south end of the porch is an uncovered terrace. A gable roof with brackets frames a segmental arch which leads to the center entrance behind. Groups of two and three Tuscan columns support the porch roof; they rest on a low brick wall which frames the terrace extending to the south. Sidelights and a fanlight frame the entrance and trios of double-hung sash windows occupy the outer bays. Similar windows are arranged across the second story including a small trio in the center. Modillion blocks detail the broad eaves and a hip-roofed dormer crowns the elevation. A one-story enclosed porch is attached to the south elevation and abuts an exterior chimney. On the rear elevation a shallow two-story bay projects from the middle of the wall and a one-story hip-roofed wing is attached to it. There is one interior chimney. Interior features include an open string staircase with slat balusters and a handrail which terminates in a volute, boxed beams in the hall and living room, and a classical mantel with fluted pilasters. The wide entrance to the living room is framed by an entablature supported by pairs of fluted pilasters and columns. There is one brick fireplace in the living room which is flanked by French doors. Little biographical information has been uncovered about Ross S. Hewitt (1895-\_\_\_\_). Although he built the house in 1920, by 1927 he had remortgaged it and by 1932 the property was turned over to the Consolidated Realty Corporation. The house was then purchased by George McCorkle (1857-\_\_\_\_), the son of Judge Matthew Locke McCorkle. A graduate of the University of North Carolina (1878),

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McCorkle was admitted to the bar in 1881. He served with the U. S. Treasury Department from 1886-88 and 1893-97. A mayor of Newton, McCorkle had a law practice in the village until he returned to Washington in 1918 to become an examiner for the Federal Trade Commission. In 1887 he married Annie Newberry Sorber. The property has changed hands a number of times since the McCorkle family sold it in 1946.

21. Edward Haupt House  
606 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1946

F

The Haupt House is a large two-story, three-bay Colonial Revival style house sheathed in a brick veneer. A pediment with denticulated horizontal and raking cornices and a demi-lune in its tympanum frames the projecting center bay of the front, east elevation. The recessed entrance is bordered by sidelights and a transom and framed by fluted pilasters and a swan's neck pediment. Quoins detail the corners of the central bay. Eight-over-twelve double-hung sash windows with keystones in their flat arches occupy the outer bays on the first story and shorter eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows are located on the second story. The denticulated cornice carries around the house, and there are two end chimneys. A screened porch is attached to the north elevation, and a long one-story wing with a two-car garage stretches along and to the west of the south elevation and along W. Sixth Street. The wing has two gable roof end blocks and a porch in front of the wing which connects them. Other details include the gable end returns, a bay window on the south wing, and the elliptical arches of the side porch; addressing W. Sixth Street. Edward Haupt (1901-1963) was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi, the son of Edward and Ella (Taylor) Haupt. He came to Catawba College and the University of North Carolina. In 1925 he became a licensed pharmacist and in 1926 he purchased the Freeze Drugstore. In 1929 he established the H & W Drugstore. Active in the city government Haupt served as mayor of the City of Newton for fifteen years between 1935 and 1961. A member of the Catawba County Tax Commission and the Catawba Memorial Hospital Board, Haupt was also one of the original trustees of the hospital. In 1947 he founded the Haupt Manufacturing Company which later became the Bracewell-Haupt Furniture Company. He was a member of the Grace

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United Church of Christ. In 1929 Haupt married Viola Yount of Conover. She still occupies the house.

22. Campbell-Fry House  
510 N. Main Ave.  
Prior to 1903, remodeled 1930s.  
F.

The present appearance of this house is the result of a drastic overbuilding and remodeling of a one-story turn-of-the-century frame cottage. These alterations appear to have been made within the last forty or fifty years. The front, east elevation has a pair of steeply pitched gables which intersect a cross gable. That gable at the east-southeast corner projects from the main block of the house and an enclosed porch with an open entryway abuts it to the north. Paired replacement six-over-six double-hung sash windows occupy the outer bays. The two gables on the front of the house are mirrored by those on the wings which extend to the rear. In addition another gable roof wing with an attached bay window projects to the rear where it abuts a shed-roofed enclosed porch. In 1903 Dr. James R. Campbell (1850-\_\_\_) bought this lot--and a dwelling on the lot--from Etta L. Curtis of Cleveland County. Campbell was a physician in Newton as early as 1872 and was still practicing in 1910. In 1887 he married his wife Helen (1864-\_\_\_), a native of Massachusetts. Mrs. Campbell wrote a short history of the First Presbyterian Church (6) for the celebration of its ninetieth anniversary in 1948. She sold the house in 1935 to Callie L. Fry who occupied it until her death about 1960. The Edward Haupt family has owned it since.

23. Andrew J. Seagle House  
500 N. Main Ave.  
ca. 1861  
P

One of the three oldest houses in the North Main Avenue Historic District, the Seagle house is a small one-story, three-bay transitional Greek Revival/Italianate cottage. Built on a T-shaped plan, the house is sheathed in weatherboards, has a porch across its front, east elevation, and decorative bargeboards. A broad gable

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frames the symmetrically composed front elevation and porch. The latter has a low hip roof, broad entablature, and four square posts with scroll-sawn brackets. Nine-over-six double-hung sash windows flank the replacement center door, and there are a trio of smaller windows in the gable peak. Windows similar to those on the front are used on the remaining elevations. On the rear elevation a Greek Revival style entrance containing sidelights and transom once opened onto a breezeway which connected this house to an older log (kitchen?) building once located on the property. It has been pulled down. The rear wing of the house has a more steeply pitched roof due to the fact that it only spans the width of a single room and not two as does the front block. One interior chimney with a corbeled cap and stucco finish survives. Extensive remodeling of the downstairs of this house has resulted in the loss of much original fabric. However, two simple vernacular Greek Revival mantels do remain. The attic is sheathed in unpainted hand-planed boards and contains a delicate railing along the stairwell opening as well as two two-vertical panel doors which are made of pine and pegged. One door removed from the first story and still in the owner's possession has a lock with a July 21, 1863 patent date on it and the letters BLW in a crescent. Andrew Jackson Seagle (1832-1918) bought a two-acre parcel of land in 1861 from M. I. Pool for \$950. The log building was probably there at that time. Seagle must have built the present cottage soon after he acquired the property. He was the son of General Daniel Seagle of Lincoln County (1796-1885). Andrew served as a private in the Confederate Army in Company I, 11th Regiment. In Newton, Seagle was a partner in the tanning business of Seagle, Clapp, and Finger (1869), Garvin and Company (1872), and A. J. Seagle and Company (shoes) until 1890. He was also secretary and treasurer of Newton from 1895 to 1907. He married Harriett H. Harris (1834-1914). They were members of the First Presbyterian Church. In 1915 Seagle sold the house to Walter C. Feimster (1866-1942), and Feimster's daughter Bess and her husband Jeff V. Stewart still own it. Stewart uses it as an office.

24. Walter C. Feimster House  
436 N. Main Ave.  
1908  
P

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One of the finest surviving Queen Anne style houses in the district, the Feimster House is a full two stories in height (plus attic), has an asymmetrical silhouette, and is clad in weatherboards. A wraparound porch extends across the front, east elevation and along one-half of both the south and north elevations. Supported by Tuscan columns with a slat balustrade between the porch has a projecting pediment which introduces the entrance; the latter has a sunburst decorative panel in its tympanum. Behind this porch the center entrance is set within a recess formed by a two-story corner octagonal bay window and a large north bay which is capped by a pent gable roof. One-over-one double-hung sash windows are used here and elsewhere. The corner bay, once crowned by an octagonal roof, is now capped by a flat roof. Located at the southeast corner of the house it is juxtaposed with a larger five-sided bay on the south elevation. The third and fourth bay windows project less prominently from the rear of the house. There are four interior chimneys all but one of which has tapered corbeled caps. (The interior finish is as yet unexamined due to the owner being out of town.) Walter Connor Feimster (1866-1942) moved to Newton in 1895 from Iredell County where he had been the superintendent of schools. He built this house in 1908. After removing to Newton, he established a law office. In 1905 he was elected to the General Assembly; in 1924 he was a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor; he delivered the keynote address at the State Democratic convention in 1926; and served on the State Board of Alcoholic Beverages between 1937-1941. He was also appointed to the Catawba County Recorder's Court (1941). His wife Bessie Y. Feimster (1871-1943) lived here until her death, and their daughter Bess and her husband Jeff V. Stewart are the present owners.

25. Robert B. Knox House  
428 N. Main Ave.  
1912  
P

The Knox House is an extremely well detailed Craftsman style home which has few stylistic equals in Catawba County. Two stories in height and three bays wide, the house is clad in a tan brick veneer. It has an attached porch across two-thirds of the front, east

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elevation. This porch has a gable roof over the entrance bay which shields a segmental arch. The arch springs from massive stuccoed piers and smaller inner supports. Two similar piers carry the southern extension of the porch. Behind the porch the entrance is set within a segmental arch and is framed by sidelights and a transom which conform to the curve of the arch. Casement windows in similar arches flank the entrance. Four double-hung sash windows framed by brackets occupy the center bay of the second story, and single windows are positioned in the outer bays. An enclosed porch with stuccoed piers extends from the south elevation and abuts a shallow shed roofed bay. The rear elevation is composed of two-story gable roof wings at the corners with a one-story shed roofed wing between. Above this shed roof the second story has four round arched windows giving the elevation a vague Italian Villa appearance. Both gable ends on this elevation are half-timbered and stuccoed. Rafter ends are visible throughout. There are two interior chimneys. On the interior, a large free-standing brick fireplace dominates the living hall, and the staircase with its slatted balustrade winds around the side and rear of it. Applied wooden strips in the dining room give the effect of wainscoting, and the mantel here and in the music room have Craftsman detailing. Robert Bost Knox (1876-1938) was born in Salisbury, the son of Robert and Harriett (Bost) Knox. His mother was a native of Catawba County. Knox came to Newton at the turn-of-the-century where he was connected with the Catawba Cotton Mills. One of the organizers of the Clyde Mills (later Clyde Fabrics) he later became vice president and general manager. He was a former alderman and was a mason and a member of the First Presbyterian Church. Knox married Clyde Worth (1876-1948) of Creston. Her name was given to the mill which he helped organize. The house was designed by the Charlotte architectural firm of Rogers and Hook. It was built on the site of the 1870s Bost Family House (32) which had been moved to face N. Ashe Avenue.

26. Judge J. C. Rudisill House  
420 N. Main Ave.  
1939-40

F

The Rudisill House is one of the finest late Colonial Revival style dwellings in the N. Main Ave. district. It was designed by Hickory

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architect Robert L. Clemmer and built in 1939-40. Two stories in height and three bays wide, the impressive brick-veneered house features a two-story semi-circular portico across the center of its front, east elevation. Supported by six tall fluted columns and crowned with a balustrade, the portico has a block modillion cornice (a feature which is repeated throughout). The center entrance is bordered by leaded glass sidelights and topped by a swan's neck pediment. Tall double-hung sash windows are arranged across the second story. Large end chimneys have paved shoulders; their stacks rise between two quarter round attic vents. A small one-story gable front wing with its own end chimney extends from the north elevation. A two-story gable roof and one-story hip roofed wings extend to the rear, one of which is a screened porch. The rather modest interior detailing features a spiral staircase and simple mantels with mantel shelves. Justus C. Rudisill (1894-1958) was born in Maiden to Robert A. and Julia (Weathers) Rudisill. A 1916 graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne College, Rudisill taught school in Catawba County for two years and then entered Wake Forest Law College in 1919. He was licensed to practice law in 1920 and established his practice in Newton in 1922 which he maintained until 1948. Between the years 1926-30 he was Catawba County Clerk of Court and was the Newton city attorney from 1931-44. Rudisill was appointed a Special Superior Court Judge in 1944 and 1949, and in 1950 he became a judge in the Sixteenth Judicial District, a post he held until 1957 when he resigned for reasons of health. A member of the State Democratic Executive Committee for eleven years, Rudisill was also a member of numerous local organizations. In 1922 he married Olanthe Miller, a native of Salisbury, and she and their son and his wife still live here.

27. Beth Eden Lutheran Church  
400 N. Main Ave.  
1929  
P

Beth Eden Lutheran Church is a Neo-Gothic Revival style building clad in a brick veneer. It is the largest church building in the North Main Avenue Historic District. Two crenellated bell towers of unequal height dominate the front, east elevation and introduce the nave and its T-shaped west end (which contains an

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educational building). The towers flank the front projection of the nave which contains the principal entrance set below a large stained glass transom within a gothic compound arch. Above this door is a large stained glass window with tracery separating it into smaller units. Smaller doors lead into the towers, and stained glass windows lie below the double belfry louvers. All openings have gothic arches and limestone keystones and imposts. Buttresses occupy the corners of the towers and west end, and others define the five-bay nave where openings are fitted with stained glass windows. A limestone water table carries around the building, and similar material is used as coping on the buttresses and raking parapet walls. Contemporary with the main block of the church is the two-story educational wing located at the west end of the nave. A tall two stories in height, the building carries the identical components of design found on the church proper. This includes a symmetrically arranged fenestration pattern and center entrance on the south elevation. The rather spare interior features include a large gothic arched opening which frames the altar and pews with gothic arched panels on each end. In 1949 a two-story brick-veneered educational wing was built to the north of the church. Connected to the church by an open-air passageway, this building has a flat roof, three bay front, east elevation and a slightly flattened gothic arched entrance. Beth Eden Lutheran Church was organized in 1850 with the assistance of Burwell M. Hopkins, a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Cabarrus County. The temple form brick structure of the first church building featured round arched windows and two doors on the principal elevation. It had an octagonal belfry not unlike the one later used on the First Presbyterian Church (6). This building stood just to the north of the present church on the ground now occupied by the 1949 education building. In 1853 the North Carolina Synod met in Newton and by 1861 the first church building was dedicated by Rev. Simeon Scherer who gave it the name Beth Eden (House of Paradise). As Newton's oldest Lutheran congregation, Beth Eden's early membership role is unknown. However, Jonas Bost, said to have built the Bost Family House (5), was one of the trustees when land was given for a building. Bost may have been involved in the construction of the church since he was a well-known carpenter/builder. Supply pastors kept the church functioning during the post Civil War years.

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Between 1873 and 1876 Beth Eden was in the same parish as St. John's church in Salisbury. In 1883 the church was received into the Tennessee Synod. The congregation grew until by 1926 steps were taken to erect a new church building; it was completed May 1, 1929 at a cost of \$35,000. The carillon bells were presented to the congregation in 1947 and the educational facility was added in 1949. The latter was designed by Robert L. Clemmer, a Hickory architect.

28. Calvin C. Copeland House  
22 W. 4th St.  
ca. 1923  
C

One story in height and three bays wide, this small bungalow is sheathed in weatherboards and is capped by a low hip roof. The front, south elevation contains an engaged porch held up by square posts which rest on a high brick wall. Behind the porch the center entrance features a large door showing simple Craftsman style details. Paired double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash flank this doorway. Shallow bays are attached to both the east and west elevations; their hip roofs are integrated with the main roof. Exposed rafter ends are visible below the eaves, there are two interior chimneys and one exterior chimney with one tapered shoulder, and two shed roof wings are attached to the rear elevation. The interior of the house has not been examined. Built in the early 1920s this house has had a number of owners. Calvin C. Copeland (1897-1973) who had moved to Newton in 1937 from Tennessee, bought the property in 1950 and it is still occupied by his son John Clinton Copeland. Calvin was employed at the nearby Fidelity Hosiery Mill as a machinist. He married Bertie Akins (1898-1980) who lived here until her death.

29. Virgie Hood House  
26 W. 4th St.  
ca. 1923  
C

Like its neighbor to the east, this house is a one-story, three-bay bungalow which has a low hip roof. It is sheathed in weatherboards.

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An attached low hip roof porch stretches across the front, south elevation, and it is supported by groups of two and three square posts set on a high brick wall. Bordered by narrow sidelights, the center entrance is flanked by a pair of double-hung sash windows to the west and a bay window to the east. The windows have vertical panes in their upper sash. Shallow hip roof bays are located on both the west and east elevations; the latter abuts a small shed roofed wing. Another shed roofed wing extends across one-half of the rear elevation. A simple paneled frieze carries around the house just below the broad eaves, and there are three interior chimneys. Local tradition maintains that this house was built by Jule W. Abernethy and then sold. In 1947 it was sold to Miss Vergie Hood (1887-1973). She and her sister Bertsie B. Hood (1892-1981) lived here until their deaths. They were sisters of Clarence Elan Hood who lived in the house (30) next-door, and daughters of Elam Bristol and Ella (Kincaid) Hood. Beth Eden Lutheran Church bought the property in 1982.

30. Clarence E. Hood House  
30 W. 4th Street  
ca. 1923  
C

This one-story, gable front bungalow is three bays wide and has an attached porch. The building is sheathed in weatherboards and replacement asphalt shingles. Two tapered posts which rest on a high brick wall uphold the screened gable roof porch which pans all but a small portion of the front, south elevation. Paired double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash lie on either side of the central entrance. Gable roof bays are located on the west and east side elevations and a one-story low hip roof wing is attached to the rear of the house. Detailed with purlin brackets and exposed rafter ends, the house also has two interior chimneys and one exterior chimney with one tapered shoulder. Like its neighbors to the east, local tradition accords the construction of this house to Jule W. Abernethy. It was resold a number of times in the 1930s and 1940s until purchased in 1948 by Clarence Elan Hood and his wife Helen (Hunsucker) Hood. Hood is the son of Elam Bristol and Ellen (Kincaid) Hood. Clarence's wife is the daughter of Hastings Augusta and Susan (Roe) Hunsucker.

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31. (former) Fidelity Hosiery Mill  
NE corner of W 4th St. and N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1910, additions 1913-1924, 1924-1932

The (former) Fidelity Hosiery Mill is a substantial and relatively intact brick (common bond) building which is two stories in height. Sanborn maps and the appearance of the facility suggest that there were three building campaigns. The first phase was the construction of the main two-story mill building which now forms the northern half of the campaign, which was carried out between 1913 and 1924, was the construction of a detailed one-story brick dye house. These two units were joined during a third building program sometime between 1924 and 1932 by a brick extension to the mill building. Symmetrically arranged rows of eleven segmentally arched windows on both the first and second stories stretch along the side elevations of the original main block. They are set below a bracketed cornice, and there are entrances on both the east and west side elevations. The north endwall has a low raking parapet wall above a double row of five windows. An enclosed stairwell is located at the east-northeast corner. The four-bay addition is the same height as the original block but contains much larger windows and an exterior chimney. The dye house one story in height, has a raking parapet wall, nine flat arched windows along the west side elevation, five on the south (end) elevation, and three on each side of center doors on the east elevation. Access to the interior has not been obtained. The Fidelity Hosiery Mill was built about 1910 on the site of an older mill whose operations were housed in a former tobacco factory. The Newton Hosiery Mill was chartered in 1895 and its incorporators included S. M. Finger, George A. Warlick, J. R. Gaither, J. C. Smith, J. C. Whitesides, and D. J. Carpenter. Carpenter purchased controlling interest in the mill about 1900 and made hosiery under the name "Black Crow," a product which gained recognition at the 1907 Jamestown Fair. The original corporation was dissolved about 1909 and the former tobacco warehouse burned in 1910. Reorganization was effected in 1910 and the Fidelity Hosiery Mill was built. The mill's incorporators were E. Morrison (Statesville), D. M. Ausley (Statesville), and R. P. Freeze (Newton). This corporation had an authorized capital stock of \$125,000. The company was dissolved in 1935. It was purchased by the Bothwell Mills, Inc. in 1946 and became the Moretz

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Hosiery Mill #2 in 1966. A number of owners held the property between that time and 1980 when the present owner acquired it.

32. Bost Family House  
421 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1870s

F

Moved from its original site along N. Main Ave. and suffering from neglect, the Bost House is a two-story three-bay frame dwelling sheathed in weatherboards. The front, west elevation contains a full two-story porch capped across its middle half by a broad pediment. A slatted balustrade runs between the square porch posts on the second story; what was probably a similar feature has been removed below. Framed by sidelights the center entrance is flanked by six-over-six double-hung sash windows. This pattern is repeated above minus the sidelights. Both brick end chimneys have been removed. A large two-story gable roof addition projects to the rear of the house. Few interior features remain although the closed string staircase has a turned newel post and one inter-story landing, and there are two vernacular Greek Revival mantels. According to local tradition the house was built by Jonas Bost, a carpenter by trade and one of the earliest settlers in Newton. Whether Jonas lived in the house or built it for one of his seven children is unclear. In any case it was subsequently occupied by the Bost family until moved about 1912 to N. Ashe Ave. from the present site of the Robert B. Knox House (25) facing N. Main Ave. When repurchased by Joe Knox, Robert's son, in 1979 the house was moved once again to its present position farther away from the street.

33. (Former) Newton High School  
607 N. Ashe Ave.  
1905, 1935

P

The large and impressive two-story brick Neo-Classical Revival style (former) Newton High School building is constructed on a U-shaped plan which contains three principal entrances, each crowned by a pediment. The original Newton Graded School (completed 1905)

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comprises the basic central block; the 1935 expansion altered the fenestration pattern and removed the central bell tower. On the front, west elevation the projecting central round arched entryway (an original feature which springs from stone piers) lies below a three-bay pediment; it is detailed with triglyphs, modillion blocks on the entablature and raking cornice, and an elliptical window in the tympanum. Nine-over-nine double-hung sash windows occupy the bays and various combinations of multi-pane windows are used in the flanking three-bay classrooms. Both pediments of the ends of the main elevation are similar to the central pediment with the exception of the triglyphs. Four pilasters frame the round arched bays which are punctuated only by openings for the entrance and an alcove on the second story. Long classroom wings extend to the rear of the building; the southern one intersects the three-bay auditorium. Here, paired pilasters flank a central entrance which is capped by a swan's neck pediment, and they rise to a pediment similar in form to the others. Paired windows set within round arches lie on either side of the entrance. Corbeled quoins grace the corners of the wing. The detached gymnasium has long rows of windows along its side elevations between buttresses. Raking parapet walls define the edge of the roof on each end where there are additional buttresses defining the bays. Detached buildings to the east of the auditorium appear to have been built in the 1950s. What is now the administrative office at the extreme eastern edge of the property was once the Superintendent's house. Built about 1920 the one story, three bay brick house has a low hip roof, center hip roofed dormer, and a recessed central entrance. Newton's first graded school was chartered in 1905 and a ten-room brick schoolhouse was built on the present site. Additions and remodeling made in 1935 converted the facility into the Newton High School. The elementary department had relocated in 1923 to a new school located less than one block away [see the Newton Elementary School (43)]. Prior (1933) to the 1935 building campaign the state legislature combined the Conover and Newton administrative units. The need for an enlarged physical plant was evident in the increasing number of students. In 1918 there were 759 children in the Newton schools, but by 1930 the number had swollen to some 1200. By 1954 the combined Newton-Conover system had 2,200 students. During the school year 1966-67 the Newton High School was moved into a few facility and this building became the Newton-Conover Junior High School.

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34. William M. Trott House  
801 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1923  
C

Sheathed in a brick veneer, this one-story gable end bungalow has an engaged porch. The principal, front elevation is composed of paired double-hung sash windows flanking the slightly off-axis entrance to the south and the porch to the north. Behind the porch, which features two brick posts, are a second pair of windows. A small gable roof projects over the entrance and its gable end is detailed with a truss-like ornament. Paired attic vents lie below a larger but different truss in the main gable peak. Additional features include the exposed purlins and an exterior chimney on the south elevation. William Matthew Trott (1892-1975), a son of William Walker and Tululah Wilson Trott, built this house on a portion of his father's property which extended from N. Main Ave. to N. Ashe Ave. Trott worked on the family farm and then later was employed by the Buick automobile company in Hamlet, North Carolina. He married Margaret McDonald, a native of Hamlet, North Carolina. Mrs. Trott was the Register of Deeds in Catawba County for many years.

35. Sherrill-Reinhardt House  
811 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1905  
C

One story in height and three bays wide, this frame turn-of-the-century cottage has an asymmetrical roofline and is clad in weatherboards and woodshingles. The principal (west) elevation is composed of a gable roof wing located to the south of the center entrance, a center gable roof dormer, and the second gable which enframes the north bay. Sidelights border the door, the whole of which is set behind a replacement hip roofed entrance porch. A single six-over-six double-hung sash window is situated in the south bay, and paired windows are located in the dormer and north bay. Sawtooth woodshingles are employed in the gable peaks. A gable roof bay projects from the north elevation. The house was built by Ray Sherrill but was subsequently sold about 1927 to R. C. Reinhardt (1899-1982).

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Reinhardt, a native of Newton, was the son of W. A. Reinhardt. He was the manager of the Clyde Fabrics Mill located in North Newton. Mrs. Reinhardt still lives here.

36. D. Lee Setzer House  
823 N. Ashe Ave.  
1916  
C

This two-story, three-bay early Colonial Revival style house has a hip roof and a wraparound porch. It is sheathed in plain weatherboards. The hip-roofed porch, which is supported by square posts resting on high brick plinths, stretches across the front, west elevation and along one-half of the north elevation. A slatted balustrade runs between the plinths. Behind the porch the center entrance is framed by a transom and sidelights and the whole unit is flanked by nine-over-one double-hung sash windows. On the second story a pair of windows occupies the center bay and single windows are located in the outer bays. A hip-roofed dormer is set on axis with the center bay. Bay windows are attached to both the south and north elevations, and two hip-roofed wings extend to the rear. There are three interior chimneys. The interior features a closed string staircase with a paneled newel post and sheathed wainscoting above the inner string, a built-in china cabinet, and two mantels with mirror overmantles framing (later) marble surrounds. Both mantels have turned posts supporting the overmantel shelf. Detached buildings on the property include a small brick flower house and a partially enclosed garage. D. Lee Setzer (1887-1965) was the son of Caleb and Martha Ellen (Carpenter) Setzer. A graduate of Catawba College, Setzer later established the Setzer Lumber and Contracting Company. He married Ola Stewart (1892-1964), a native of Georgia. Setzer's firm built the house which his daughter Cornelia Setzer has occupied for the past twenty years.

37. McFalls-Marlowe House  
831 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1915  
C

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The McFalls-Marlow House, built about 1915 by H. G. McFalls, is a two-story three-bay frame dwelling which features two gables on the front, west elevation, an L-shaped plan, and a wraparound porch. It is sheathed in plain weatherboards. The porch has a low hip roof, Tuscan columns, and a slatted balustrade. It carries across the entire front and one-half of the north elevation. One-over-one double-hung sash windows are employed throughout the composition, and round attic vents are located in the two front gables. One and two-story gable roof wings extend to the rear of the house, where there is also a one-story flat-roofed addition. The house has one exterior and three interior chimneys, and an outside staircase on the north elevation leads to a second floor apartment. The interior has not been examined. According to local tradition Harvey G. McFalls (1855-1925) was associated with the Newton Cotton Mills, although his position there is not known. He bought this lot in 1915 for \$385 from George A. Warlick; it is presumed that the house was built soon after. McFalls and his wife Addie (1878-1949) sold the property in 1919 to C. H. Hewitt for \$2250. Hewitt conveyed it in 1922 to T. W. Saunders and his wife Bertha. The Sanders lived here until 1931 when G. Everette Long purchased the property from them. Long conveyed it in 1933 to the Citizens Building and Loan Association, and this institution sold it to William Marlowe and his stepdaughter Eula Sigmon in 1939. In 1953 these owners converted the house into two apartments but still lived here. Eula (Sigmon) Rose still owns the house.

38. Henkel-Williams-White House  
902 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1883  
P

This Italianate style dwelling is one of the largest and most intact examples in the group of houses built in the district during the late 1870s and 1880s. Two stories in height the three-bay house features a T-shaped three-bay plan with a front bay window, rear additions, and a 1920s porch; it is clad in weatherboards. Its bracketed exterior development belies the existence of its vernacular Greek Revival style interior finish. The hip roofed porch abuts a two-story wing and rests on four large brick posts

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which rise from a low brick wall. A bay window on the wing is situated below a tall four-over-four double-hung sash window which has a pedimented lintel (a detail found on each window). Behind the porch the central entrance is enframed by a paneled segmental arch; the double door itself has two panes of glass and a recessed panel in each half. Paired brackets enliven the frieze boards and bargeboards are employed in the gable ends. In addition to the two-story leg of the T, the rear elevation has one and two story shed roofed wings and an exterior chimney. One interior chimney survives. The interior finish includes an open string staircase with a turned newel post, a wave molding below the outer string, and sheathed wainscoting above the inner string. The wainscoting is carried throughout the hall. An original Greek Revival mantel has a frieze and pilasters with deep lozenge-shape panels cut into the surface, and one surviving original door has paired raised vertical panels, within a two part Greek Revival surround. The history of this building is full of ambiguities. First and foremost is that concerning the persistent use of typically antebellum Greek Revival style mantels and two-panel doors in an 1880s Italianate house. It may be that portions of a smaller and older house were reused in the construction of this building since the doors and mantels appear on both stories. The deed record sheds some light on the problem, although certainly not conclusive evidence. In 1883 P. L. Yount gave this lot (one acre and 143 poles) to his son-in-law Lafayette Henkel and Henkel's wife Annie B. (Yount) Henkel. Valued at \$200 the lot was transferred with appurtenances except fence rails. Perhaps it was only a pasture, but a small house could have been on the lot. In 1885 Henkel, then living in Caldwell County, sold the identical lot to William H. Williams for \$1,000. Judging by price alone, it would seem that the house had been built by Henkel between 1882 and 1885. At this time Williams was operating the Newton Cotton Mills which were located to the north and east of his newly acquired house. William H. Williams was the son of William W. Williams, who had come to King's Mountain from New Jersey in 1853 where he operated the iron forge established by Benjamin Briggs. By 1894 the property had come into possession of the Newton Hotel and Land Development company. In that year the company sold it to J. C. Arney for \$800, but he defaulted on his loan, and in 1900 it was sold to Lucius Tyrus White (1856-1922.)

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White was chief miller at the nearby Newton Roller Mills, and he and his wife Addie Winnefred White (1868-1945) apparently lived here until their deaths. They replaced the front porch probably in the 1920s. Numerous subsequent owners includes the present owner Fontaine and Nancy Campbell who have lived here since 1978.

39. Wade H. Lefler, Sr. House  
832 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1926  
C

The Lefler House is a well detailed and well preserved one-story bungalow that has a wraparound porch. It is sheathed in a brick veneer and woodshingles. The house has an attached porch which stretches across one-half of the front, east elevation and along one-half of the south elevation. Brick posts which rest on a low brick wall support the porch's broad gable roof. The central entrance is flanked by double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash. Woodshingles appear in the gable ends as do purlin brackets. Shallow gable roof bays project from both the south and north elevations, and an engaged (now enclosed) porch is located at the rear. The house has two interior chimneys. Inspection of the interior was not possible at this time. Wade Hampton Lefler, Sr. (1896-1981) was born in Cooleemee, Davie County to Charles D. and Eva Mae (Spicegood) Lefler. Lefler built this house on property he purchased in 1926. He was a graduate of Trinity College. In 1924 Lefler opened a law office in Newton. He was a former Newton city attorney, Catawba County attorney, clerk of Catawba County Superior Court (1933-49), and former president of the North Carolina Clerk's Association. His wife was Miss Trudye Chilcoat (1902-1979). The house is still owned by the family and is vacant.

40. Charles H. Mebane, Jr. House  
828 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1927  
C

The Mebane House is a large expansive one-and-one-half story Tudor Revival style dwelling with a brick-veneered first story and half-

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timbered and stuccoed gable ends. Its principal, east elevation is composed of a center projecting entrance capped by a gable roof, a larger gable roofed bay to the south, and a large exterior chimney with a decorative free-standing stack adjoining the bay to the north. Paired casement windows are employed in the bays and diamond-pane casement windows occupy the gable peak. An open porch which rests on square posts projects from the south elevation; it is capped by a steeply pitched gable roof with stucco and half timbering. The porch is framed by a larger gable which rises from the main roof, and another smaller gable at the southwest corner frames a shallow bay. A single expansive gable rises above the rear elevation. At this point in time it has not been possible to examine the house's interior features. Charles Harden Mebane, Jr. (1896-1963) was the son of Charles Harden and Minnie (Cochran) Mebane, and was born in Newton. His parents lived in the nearby Charles Harden Mebane, Sr. House (41). A graduate of Catawba College, Mebane later worked with his father who published the local Catawba County News. After his father's death he founded the Newton Observer which became a weekly paper in 1932. In the early 1950s Mebane purchased the Catawba News-Enterprise thereby bringing the paper back into the family. One of the organizers of the Newton Merchants Association, Mebane was made president of the Citizens Savings and Loan Association in 1945. In 1923 Mebane married Florence Frazier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Frazier of Catawba, and she still owns the property.

41. Charles H. Mebane, Sr. House  
820 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1880s (?), turn-of-the-century remodeling.

The Mebane House is a two-story three-bay frame dwelling constructed on a T-shaped plan. In both plan and detailing it resembles the nearby Henkel-Williams-White House (38). Similarly it too is probably a mid 1880s dwelling which was remodeled in the early twentieth century. Sheathed in German siding it features pedimented gables and an attached replacement porch across two-thirds of the front, east elevation. The shed roof of the porch rests on three Doric columns and abuts the projecting bay at the east-northeast corner. Behind the porch a set of double doors have paired chamfered and recessed panels with roundels above and below

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the large windows. The flanking four-over-four double hung sash windows are capped with molded triangular lintels. A later dentil string carries below the eaves, along the raking cornices, and extends below the eaves of the one story gable roof wing which extends to the rear. One interior chimney is located on this wing and a second chimney rises between the wing and main block. Two different types of molded window and door surrounds are visible on the interior. The more modest type has simple corner blocks, and the second, with more numerous contours, is located in the dining room--also detailed with paneled wainscoting. One Neo-Classical Revival style mantel has an overmantel shelf. The open string staircase has turned balusters and intricate riser brackets on the outer string. In 1894 S. M. Finger, the trustee of the estate of William W. Williams sold this house to the recently married Charles H. Mebane. The price of \$506 suggests that a house may have been here but this is not clear. Williams' acquisition of the property has not been determined. Likewise, it is not clear if he had built this house in his old age, since he is listed on an 1886 map as living in the southeastern part of the county. Williams had moved from New Jersey to King's Mountain in 1853 where he assumed management of the Benjamin Briggs iron foundry. Mebane was probably responsible for the house's extensive remodeling including the application of Neo-Classical details (and the German siding?). Charles Harden Mebane, Sr. (1862-1926) was born in Guilford County and was educated at Catawba college and the University of North Carolina. A former public school teacher (1886-1892) and instructor at Catawba College (1892-96), Mebane was elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1896. His efforts in public education continued after his term was completed in 1900 when he served as president of Catawba College between 1900 and 1904. Subsequently he was superintendent of Catawba County schools for a number of years, and during his tenure the nearby Newton Graded School (33) was built. In 1905 Mebane purchased the Catawba County News. In 1906 he was admitted to the bar, and was judge of the County Recorder's Court in 1914-15. Mebane purchased the Enterprise in 1919 and merged it with his other paper to form the Catawba News-Enterprise. He was also a trustee of Women's College of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, from 1896 until 1926. In 1894 Mebane married Minnie Cochran, a native of Newton. They lived here until their deaths. The house was subsequently occupied by their daughter Ione (Mebane) Mann and her husband. Mrs. Mann had also been involved in the family newspaper

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business and remained with it after her father's death. In 1952 she sold the business to Robert H. Morrison but it was later repurchased by her brother Charles Hardin Mebane, Jr. (40). The Mebane family sold the newspaper about 1980 to the Park Newspaper Chain.

42. Loomis F. Klutz House  
802 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1927  
P

The Klutz House is an unusual yellow brick and stucco dwelling, primarily Tudor Revival in design, featuring an asymmetrical silhouette and a red tile roof. Although in plan the one-and-one-half story building has an almost square shape, the main cross gable roof and the subordinate gable roofs dominate the composition. The five-bay front, east elevation is composed of a center gable roof entrance porch framed by the large cross gable above; both gable peaks are finished with stucco and half timbering. Two compound columns and a pair of pilasters support the porch roof. Behind it the entrance is bordered by sidelights. Paired six-over-six double hung sash windows flank the door, and the outer bays feature three windows in the north bay and two smaller windows and a door leading into the porch at the southeast corner. A pair of windows are set above the door and they are flanked by smaller, shorter single windows. On the south elevation the principal gable frames a short two-story gable roof bay and abuts the projecting gable roof of the side porch. A single broad gable roof envelopes the rear elevation, and the north elevation is identical to its pendant but lacks the two-story bay. The house has one interior chimney and bell shaped finials. In the interior short bookcases supporting tapered posts are set in the passage leading from the hall into the parlor. The dining room features a decorative plaster molding with a vine motif picture rail which carries above the windows. The living room mantel is composed of various sizes of glazed tile. The open string staircase has one inter-story landing, a slat balustrade, and a square newel post. Loomis Franklin Klutz (1888-\_\_\_\_) was born in Maiden, Catawba County, to Dr. Paul Joseph Klutz and Luella (Carpenter) Klutz. Educated at the South Fork Institute, Maiden and Catawba College, Newton Klutz graduated from Washington and Lee University, Trinity College, and Wake Forest University. In 1914 he was

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admitted to the N. C. bar. In 1917 Klutz established his law practice in Newton after a three year residence in Taylorsville, the Alexander County seat. A prominent local attorney, Klutz represented Catawba County in the State Legislature between 1924 and 1928. Klutz was a member of numerous local organizations including the Reformed Church. In 1922 he married Margaret Lou (Cline) Turner, a native of Shelby. The Klutz's had moved to Broward County, Florida prior to 1973 when the house was sold. They built the house on a lot which was purchased in 1927. An architect was probably involved in its design but his or her name has not been determined. Subsequent owners of the house include Hope Brother Builders Inc. (1973), Robert and Delores Warren (1974), and Daniel and Diane Towery (1980).

43. (former) Newton Elementary School  
710 N. Ashe Ave.  
1923, partially rebuilt 1930  
P

The (former) Newton Elementary School is a large two-story brick-veneered Neo-Classical Revival style building constructed on an elongated H-plan. Its front, east elevation has a slightly projecting center entrance bay positioned between paired classroom blocks. Additional classrooms are located in the end blocks although these have only three small windows in their street front elevations. The Neo-Classical entrance and its surround is executed in limestone. An entablature with triglyphs carries above two fluted pilasters on high plinths, and the whole unit enframes a round arch. Double doors and a fanlight are set within the arch. Two stylized urns, flanking the school name, rest on top of the entablature. A corbeled string course defines the position of the second story above which the parapet wall rises. Additional bands form a rectangular pattern on the face of the wings. Groups of five six-over-six double-hung sash windows light the classrooms. A trio of similar windows is set in the center bay of the second story above the entrance and below a balustraded parapet. The full basement level contains four additional rooms so that the center portion of the H contains a total of twelve distinct units. A large auditorium wing extends to the rear of the school. Tall windows are situated between buttresses on each elevation. Raised entrances are located on the side elevations of both end blocks as are the more recently erected brick fire exit towers. Opened for use in 1924 the

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(former) Newton Elementary School was built for use as a high school, but became the elementary school when the older and nearby graded school was enlarged in 1935. The impressive school building was Newton's second graded school, and answered the need for new facilities in the wake of a growing school-age population. The architectural firm of Benton and Benton, whose offices were in Wilson, North Carolina, designed the school in, as the Catawba News Enterprise stated on December 8, 1922, the "English-classic design." A steam heating plant as well as Domestic Science rooms were in the basement story, and classrooms on the upper floor. Thomas R. Owen, whose home is on W, Seventh Street supervised the construction of the school for the J. J. Stroud Construction Company. The school building now houses the Newton-Conover City School Adolescent Day Program as well as the Community School's Program.

44. Finger-Caldwell House  
630 N. Ashe Avenue  
ca. 1883  
C

The Finger-Caldwell House is a large two-story three-bay frame dwelling featuring two story rear wings, a flat roofed entrance porch and a Greek Revival style entrance. J. F. Finger probably built the house about 1883, soon after he acquired the lot on which it now stands. The front, east elevation has an entrance porch which is crowned by a balustrade and supported by Tuscan columns. (Originally, the porch extended across the entire front and part of the side elevations.) Six-over-six double-hung sash windows flank the center entrance which is framed by sidelights and a transom. Gable roof wings to the rear of the house are a full two stories in height; one-story gable and hip roofed wings are attached to them. One exterior and a single interior chimney with a corbeled cap survive. The interior has gone through at least two remodelings both dating from the mid twentieth century. A few surviving five panel door (four vertical panels, one horizontal) on the second story may be original. There are no other significant interior features.

The lot on which this house was built appears to have been part of the twenty-six acre parcel in northwest Newton which Sidney L. Yount bought in 1881. Yount began selling smaller lots as early as 1882;

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this one he sold to J. M. Warlick that year. Warlick conveyed it to J. F. Finger in 1883. In 1893 Finger sold it to his wife Katie for \$800. Katie Finger conveyed the identical parcel to D. J. Carpenter in 1900 for \$1200. Carpenter was involved in the ownership of the near-by Newton Hosiery Mill (later the Fidelity Hosiery Mill. (31)). The property was conveyed by a commissioner's deed in 1913 to P. O. Carpenter and W. P. Carpenter. They later sold it to James A. and Mary E. Garvin. The Garvins sold it to Robert P. Caldwell in 1916. Caldwell (1872-1938) was a former Newton Postmaster (1900-1904), a county treasurer, and a prominent member of the county Republican Party. His wife was Florence Whitener (1879-1954). Long time owner of the house, Joshua M. Tyler acquired the property in 1953; he sold it to his daughter and her husband George Day in 1961. The Days still live here.

45. Shipp-McDaniel House  
616 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1914  
C

This one-and-one-half story, three-bay early Colonial Revival house is characterized by the broad gambrel roof which dominates and rises above the engaged porch on the front, east elevation. Clad in wide replacement asbestos siding, the house also has gable roof dormers, located on both the north and south elevations. The four square porch posts rest on brick plinths, and behind them the center entrance is framed by sidelights and flanked by a trio of double-hung sash windows to the north and a single window to the south. A pair of small double-hung sash windows are located in the half story. One interior chimney remains. The modest interior has been remodeled and the simple woodwork painted. Dr. George William Shipp (1885-1952) was the son of attorney Robert Johnston Shipp and Virginia Florence Leone (Setzer) Shipp. A graduate of the University of North Carolina, George Shipp studied medicine at the University of Maryland. He was one of the founders of the Catawba County Medical Society and had practiced medicine in Newton since 1914 (the year he bought this property). He married Bessie Reid (1886-1958) of Baltimore, Maryland. They had moved from this house to N. Main Avenue by 1924 and there were a number of subsequent owners. The present occupant, Kenneth McDaniel, bought the property in 1964.

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46. Clyde Wagner House  
608 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1917  
A

Two stories in height and three bays wide, this large frame house has a low hip roof and is sheathed in weatherboards. An attached porch with a flat roof stretches across two-thirds of the front, east elevation where it abuts the projecting two-story north bay. Three square porch posts rest on a low brick wall. The central entrance is flanked by triplesets of double-hung sash windows which feature narrow vertical panes in their upper sash. On the second story paired windows occupy the outer bays and a single window the center bay. A single exterior chimney rises on the south side elevation, there is a bay window on the north side elevation, and gable and shed roof rear wings (the former is the kitchen). The interior has not been examined. Oren Clyde Wagner (1896-1951) was the son of James Wagner. But little additional information has been uncovered about him. At the time of his death, Wagner was living in the house, which he probably built on this lot soon after he acquired it in 1917. There have been numerous owners since Wagner's death in 1951.

47. Carpenter-Snyder House  
600 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1905  
P

A broad cross-gambrel roof highlights this one-and-one-half story frame house which was built about 1900 by manufacturer D. J. Snyder. Sheathed in weatherboards on the first story the house is clad in tin shingles on the upper half-story, and it has an attached porch on the side, south elevation. The front, east elevation is composed of a recessed center entrance flanked by a single one-over-one double-hung sash window to the north and a bay window with Queen Anne upper sash to the south. A pair of windows above the door are set below and between gable and returns and a pendant. The broader south gambrel roof frames three windows, two of which are set below a decorative panel featuring a sunburst with keystone. The attached porch, which has four Doric columns on high plinths,

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extends along two-thirds of this elevation. An enclosed low hip roofed porch is attached to the rear of the house, and a second bay window projects from the north elevation. Interior features have not been examined. According to local tradition this house was built by D. J. Carpenter, owner of the nearby Newton Hosiery Mill (now the site of the former Fidelity Hosiery Mill), for his mill superintendant a Mr. Snyder. Carpenter purchased controlling interest in the mill about 1900. That same year he bought three adjacent town lots along what is now N. Ashe Ave. from Kittie Finger. Her dwelling house (44) was on one of the lots and the others were vacant. At some point prior to 1909 (when Carpenter closed the mill) he must have built this house. When he sold all the property purchased in 1900 to P. O. Carpenter in 1913 the deed made reference to this parcel as the "cottage lot." There have been numerous owners since 1913 including J. C. Wagner (1913-19), C. W. Sherrill (1919-20), H. A. Sigmon (1920-?), Robert Lee Taylor (1939-1984?), and J. Michael Gaither (1984- ).

48. Schrum-Zimtbaum House  
508 N. Ashe Ave.  
1924  
P

The Schrum-Zimtbaum House is one of the most well preserved and best executed bungalows in the district. One-and-one-half stories in height, it is clad in a brick veneer and woodshingles. A large gable roof porch stretches across two-thirds of the front, east elevation, and a gable roof dormer is positioned to the south. The porch is framed by a low brick wall from which four brick posts rise to support the roof; its overhang is supported by purlin brackets and three windows puncture the woodshingled wall surface. Behind the porch the central entrance is flanked by trios of double-hung sash windows with Queen Anne upper sash; the center units are larger than the other two. Fitted with four windows, the dormer also features purlin brackets. Shallow bays with shed roofs are attached to both the north and south elevations and purlin brackets are situated below the roof overhang. Unlike the lively exterior the interior has no significant features. Forrest F. Schrum (1899-1983) bought the lot on which this house stands in 1923 and built here in 1924. He engaged Q. E. Herman, a Hickory architect, to design the

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house and it was erected by the Yount and Fulbright Construction Company of Newton. Schrum was the son of Edward P. and Lura D. (Plonk) Schrum. The Schrums lived here until 1932 when they sold the house to Mark Zimtbaum. Zimtbaum (1881-1936), a native of New York state, was born to Emmerich and Matilda Zimtbaum. He had moved from Charlotte to Newton in 1926. Zimtbaum was president of the Ideal Chair Company in Lincoln. In 1930 he married Mary Gaither (1898-1979), daughter of W. B. and Genevieve (Wilfong) Gaither. She lived here until her death. The Zimtbaum's son William Zimtbaum still owns and occupies the house.

49. Duplex  
502 N. Ashe Ave.  
Ca. 1970s  
I

One story in height and seven bays wide this ranch-type duplex has a center breezeway which connects the two units. It is sheathed in yellow vinyl siding, and its front, east elevation is marked only by the double-hung sash windows which appear individually and in pairs.

50. (former) Beth Eden Lutheran Church Parsonage  
424 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1906  
C

The (former) Beth Eden Lutheran Church Parsonage is a two-story, asymmetrically massed frame house clad in weatherboards. It has a full width front porch. On the principal, east elevation a two-story gable roof wing projects from the main hip roof block; its first story is formed into a three-sided bay. Turned porch posts with scroll-sawn brackets support the hip roofed porch. A raised panel door is situated on the recessed wall plane, one interior chimney survives, and two-over-two double-hung sash are used throughout. Formerly located at the northwest corner of N. Main Avenue and Fourth Street, the parsonage was built about 1906, soon after the Rev. J. D. Mauney became pastor. It remained on the original site until 1927 when construction of the present Beth Eden Church commenced. The house remained the church's parsonage throughout 1944 and was occupied by the Rev. A. R. Beck and his wife.

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A second parsonage was built on S. Main Avenue about this time. The Becks lived here at least until 1950. It is now an apartment house.

51. Coley Rental House  
420 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1923  
C

One and one-half stories in height and three bays wide, this large bungalow resting on a brick foundation, is clad in weatherboards and woodshingles. Its front, east elevation has an engaged porch supported by tapered posts and a large gable roof center dormer. The dormer employs woodshingles in its gable peak and weatherboards below, three double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash, and purlin brackets. Behind the porch the center entrance is flanked by paired double-hung sash windows similar to those in the dormer. A one-story gable roof wing with exposed rafter ends is attached to the rear elevation, and the house has one interior chimney and purlin brackets. Local tradition holds that this house was built by the nearby Fidelity Hosiery Mill (31) for the mill superintendent. In 1938 Joseph Alonzo Coley bought it from the Farmers and Merchants Bank. Coley was the father of William G. Coley who lived in the house (52) next-door. Joseph rented this house from the time he bought it, and the subsequent owners Charles Lippard (1977) and Ben Huss (1981) have also rented it.

52. William G. Coley House  
400 N. Ashe Ave.  
ca. 1923  
C

The front, east elevation of this one-story three-bay bungalow features an engaged porch and a large gable roof center dormer. Wide asbestos siding has replaced the original sheathing material. Four tapered posts on brick plinths support the house's slightly flared eaves, and behind it paired four-over-four double-hung sash flank the center entrance. The dormer contains four small double-hung sash windows and purlin brackets; the latter are employed throughout the composition. A one-story gable roof wing which has an exterior chimney extends to the rear of the house. The building

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rests on a high brick foundation. To the north of the house is an attached two-car garage featuring gables over bays and purlin brackets. According to local tradition this house was built for the manager (a Mr. Morrison?) of the Fidelity Hosiery Mills (31) which was located directly across the street. William G. Coley bought the property from the mill in 1939 and his wife still owns and occupies the house.

53. Ernest H. Yount, Sr. House  
39 W. 6th St.  
1924 C

The Yount House is an unusual bungalow whose prominent features include multiple clipped gable roofs and a porch with classical details. One story in height and three bays wide, the house is sheathed in German siding. Its varied silhouette is formed by the position of two end clipped gable blocks at the front and rear of the house both of which intersect a broad clipped gable. The front, north elevation is composed of a large projecting clipped gable entrance porch held aloft by fluted columns and flanked by flat roofed trellis-like wings on similar columns. Gable end returns and a string of dentils highlight the center bay while the wings have brackets below their eaves. Behind this porch the center entrance is flanked by trios of double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash. The elevation is crowned by the clipped gable end of the cross roof. An exterior chimney with convex shoulders and a small porch with decorative wrought iron support are located on the west elevation. A screened porch is attached to the rear elevation. Both porches share the detailing of the wings on the front. The interior features have not been examined. Earnest H. Yount, Sr., (1883-1959), a native of Iredell County, was the son of Dr. Hareshaw and Mary (Macon) Yount. After the family removed to Newton Ernest attended Catawba College and later Davidson College. After college he returned to Newton where he worked in the D. H. Yount Clothing store. His second wife who still lives in the house, is Rosa Huffman. They were married in 1936.

54. Winnie Simmons House  
43 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1970s  
F

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One story in height and three bays wide, this ranch-type house is sheathed in a brick veneer. The house has a slightly recessed entrance, a picture window to its left, and a pair of windows to the right. Because of the deep setback and the screen of trees and shrubbery around it, the house does not detract from the visual continuity along the street.

55. William D. Cochrane House  
117 W. 6th Street  
ca. 1923  
C

A two-story three-bay frame Colonial Revival dwelling, the Cochrane House has a hip roof and is sheathed in wide German siding. The center entrance is framed by pilasters and a shallow pediment, and it is set between trios of double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash. On the second story paired windows flank small paired casement windows in the center bay. A one-story hip roofed wing is attached to the side, west elevation and a flat-roofed screened porch on the east elevation balances the composition. It is not clear whether the house originally had a porch. Other features of the house include broad, unadorned eaves, a small shed roofed bay attached to the rear elevation, and a modern patio/deck abutting the rear bay. The interior was not examined. William Daniel Cochran bought the lot on which this house was built in 1923 and it is assumed that he built the house soon after. He was born in Newton, the son of George Washington and Laura (Puett) Cochrane. A lifelong resident of Newton he attended Catawba College and later established the Caldwell-Cochrane grocery store. He married Veazy Fillingim of Atlanta, Georgia. The Cochranes lived here until their deaths when the house passed to their heirs William and Mary (Cochrane) Austin. In 1972 the property was sold to Rich and C. Foster and his wife Mabel. She still lives here.

56. Donnie Lee Pike House  
125 W. 6th Street  
ca. 1960s  
I

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This intrusive ranch-type house is one story in height, six bays wide, and it is clad in a brick veneer. Its broad end gable on the side, west elevation frames a gable roof wing to which is attached a shed roofed porch. The house has one exterior and one interior chimney.

57. Luther M. Epps House  
131 W. 6th Street  
ca. 1935  
C

The Epps House is an asymmetrically massed one-and-one-half story brick veneered dwelling. It is part of that group of building types common to the mid 1930s in Catawba County which are related in general form to the more ornate Tudor Revival houses which preceded them. Its front, north elevation is composed of a broad steeply pitched gable which enframes the gable roof round arched entrance porch and the east bay. A large exterior chimney with tapered shoulders abuts this gable to the west. Paired six-over-one double-hung sash windows occupy the west bay, and a trio of windows occupies the east bay. An open terrace stretches across two-thirds of the elevation, and a hip roof porch featuring two brick posts is attached to the east elevation. Luther Macon Epps (1885-1954) is said to have built this house in the mid 1930s. Epps was superintendent of Newton City Schools from 1923 to 1926. Sometime later he established a printing business. Epps was a member of the First Methodist Church, but little additional biographical information has been uncovered about him.

58. William R. Abernethy House  
205 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1922  
C

One and one-half stories in height and three bays wide, the Abernethy House is a bungalow with an expansive engaged porch. The lower story is clad in weatherboards; the upper story sheathing has been replaced with aluminum siding. Its front, north elevation is composed of the porch with four brick posts resting on a low brick wall and a large center gable roof dormer. The latter is detailed

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with three one-over-one double-hung sash windows, purlin brackets and exposed rafter ends. Behind the porch the center entrance is framed by sidelights and flanked by trios of double-hung sash windows. Purlin brackets detail both gable ends, there is a shallow bay with a shed roof on the east elevation, two interior chimneys, and a gable roof wing and shed roofed dormer on the rear elevation. The darkly stained interior woodwork features typical bungalow moldings on the window and door surrounds and a slat balustrade on the open string staircase. William R. Abernethy (1878-1937) was the son of Theodore R. and Jane (Campbell) Abernethy. At the time of his death in 1937 Abernethy was superintendent of the Light and Water Department in Newton, but little additional biographical information has been uncovered about him. The family retained ownership of the house for a number of years after his death.

59. G. Sam Rowe, Sr. House  
215 W. 6th St.  
1947

F

One story in height and three bays wide, the Rowe House has a gable on hip roof and granite veneer walls. The front, north elevation features a recessed center entrance, a gable roof bay at the north-east corner, and a center shed roofed dormer which abuts a stone chimney. A large exterior chimney is located at the west elevation where there is also a small gable roof wing. The rear elevation has a large shed roof dormer and an attached garage with an attic. The granite was quarried in Lincoln County and a Mr. Isenhower from the Hickory area was the stonemason. Mr. Rowe drew the plans and Seth Hewitt was the builder. George Samuel Rowe (1903-1983) was a native of Newton and was the son of George L. and Elizabeth (Sigmon) Rowe. A graduate of the School of Engineering of North Carolina State University in Raleigh, he served as Catawba County surveyor between 1934 and 1948. Rowe was superintendent of public works between 1936-1938, city manager from 1957-1969, an eleven-term city alderman (1971-1983), and Mayor Pro Tem from 1977-1983. Active in community affairs, he was a charter member and past president of the Catawba County Historical Association. In 1930 he married Willie Mae Robinson, sister of Mrs. George R. Powell, who still lives in the house.

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60. Thomas C. Clifton House  
303 W. 6th St.  
1932  
C

The only Dutch Colonial Revival style house in the district, the Clifton House is one-and-one-half stories in height and three bays wide. It was built in 1932 by Banker Thomas C. Clifton. The house is sheathed in a brick veneer on the first story and stucco on the half story. The front, north elevation has a center entrance with sidelights which is flanked by a trio of double-hung sash windows in which narrow units frame a larger one. Projecting from the gambrel roof is a two-bay shed roof dormer with paired windows in each bay. An attached flat roofed porch with brick posts extends from the east elevation where it leads to an enclosed wing. Another dormer stretches across the rear elevation and a narrow wing is attached to the west elevation. A detached garage at the back of the property imitates the general design of the house. There is one large interior chimney. Thomas Corday Clifton (1880-1953) was born in Fort Lawn, South Carolina to Thomas and Ellen Elizabeth Clifton. Clifton attended Catawba College when it was still located in Newton. Afterwards he worked for the Shuford National Bank (later First National) and eventually became cashier. Clifton and his wife Ida Mae Mundy of Denver, Lincoln County were members of the First Presbyterian Church. They lived here until their deaths. The house is still owned and occupied by members of the family.

61. George R. Powell House  
309 W. 6th St.  
1922  
C

The Powell House is a one-and-one-half story three-bay bungalow sheathed in weatherboards and woodshingles. Its front, north elevation has an engaged porch and a large center gable roof dormer. Four heavy brick posts support the roof's gently flared eaves and they rest on a high brick wall. Sidelights frame the center entrance which is flanked by a trio of double-hung sash windows with Queen Anne style upper sash. Four windows occupy the dormer which is detailed with woodshingles, weatherboards, and purlin brackets.

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Shallow rectangular bays with shed roofs project from the east and west elevations where they are framed by the woodshingled side gable peaks. Purlin brackets support the broad overhang of the roof. A second dormer is located on the rear elevation where the one-story gable roof kitchen wing is located; the latter has an exterior end chimney. The house has two interior chimneys. Its modest interior has typical bungalow doors and surrounds (painted) and a simple brick mantel (also painted). George Robert Powell (1896-1978) was born in Starke, Florida, the son of Laura and Robert Powell. He came to Newton in 1913 to work in the P. O. Carpenter Store which he later assumed ownership and management of. He retired from the business in 1962. A former alderman and mayor (1940), Powell was vice president and member of the board of the Citizens Savings and Loan for twenty years. He was also a director of the Northwestern Bank. Powell served with the Rainbow Division in France during WWI. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church. His wife, who still lives in the house, is Thelma (Robinson) Powell. Mrs. Powell taught school in the Newton Graded Schools for many years.

62. George A. Warlick House  
315 W. 6th St.  
1924  
C

Completed in October of 1924 by George Warlick, an attorney, the house is one story in height, finished in stucco, and capped by a nearly flat roof. Its symmetrically composed three-bay front, north elevation has a center entrance with sidelights and a flat roofed entrance porch which sports a bracketed cornice; the whole is supported by fluted columns set on a terrace. Trios of double-hung sash windows flanking the entrance are composed of a large center window above wall panels and narrower side windows. The windows have small upper sash with narrow vertical panes. An engaged porch is located on the east elevation as is a stuccoed exterior chimney with concave shoulders. A small flat roofed wing extends to the rear. George Andrew Warlick (1893-1953) was born in Newton to George A. and Lillie (Gill) Warlick. He attended Trinity Park School, received his B.A. degree from Trinity College in 1913, and his doctor of laws degree in 1916 from Duke University Law School. He also

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studied at the University of Paris. In 1948 Warlick was the Democratic Senator from the twenty-fifth senatorial district in North Carolina, and was chairman of the Catawba County Democratic Party from 1948-1950. A member of numerous fraternal organizations, Warlick was a member of the Catawba County Bar Association and the First Methodist Church. In 1921 he married Marion Hollingsworth (1902-1946), and following her death married Dorothy Morrison. She still lives in the house.

63. Anderson-Brady House  
403 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1905  
C

A small one-story frame dwelling, the Anderson-Brady House has a pair of gables and an attached porch across two-thirds of its front, north elevation. The house is sheathed in replacement aluminum siding. Four Tuscan columns support the flat roof of the porch and a slatted balustrade stretches between them. A small gable rises above and behind the porch which also abuts a gable roof bay at the northwest corner. The center entrance is flanked by a pair of one-over-one double-hung sash windows to the east and a single window in the bay to the west. Gable and shed roof wings extend to the rear of the house, and the two interior chimneys have corbeled caps. The interior was completely remodeled by the present owner. In 1913 Charles Alvin Brady purchased this property from S. D. Campbell. Campbell had previously acquired it from Sue Amy Anderson, a member of the family who first occupied the house. Brady (1889-1961) was from Conover and was a registered druggist who operated a drugstore in Newton. He married Henrietta Killian (1889-1954), who was apparently not directly related to J. Y. Killian whose pivotal house is on West Seventh Street. Their daughter Mrs. Henri B. Phillips, now owns and occupies the house.

64. Hawn-Lemon House  
316 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1907  
C

Similar in general characteristics to the neighboring Garvin-Long House (65), this one-story dwelling features a hipped roof central

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block with two gables, a center gable roof dormer, and an attached porch across the front, south elevation. It is sheathed entirely in weatherboards. The hip roof of the porch rests on four turned posts with scroll-sawn brackets, it has a shallow gable with a bargeboard denoting the entryway, and a slatted balustrade. One-over-one double-hung sash windows, one of which is located in the projecting west bay, flank the center entrance. A single window is set in the dormer. In 1907 S. Hawn purchased this lot from J. A. Gilmer and L. H. Phillips for \$305 and he probably built this house soon after. No biographical information has as yet been uncovered about Hawn. In 1912 Hawn sold the property to George A. Warlick (1858-1924) for \$1400. The house was clearly on the lot by then. Warlick and his family occupied a large house (since demolished) on N. Main Ave. and therefore he probably rented this house or it was used by his children. Warlick left the property to his son Joe, but Joe later made a quitclaim deed of the property to his mother. She sold the property in 1945 to Harvey Lee (1907-1977) and Alice (Moser) Lemon (1910- ). This deed refers to the property as the Hawn House and lot. Mrs. Lemon still lives here.

65. Garvin-Long House  
308 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1909  
C

The Garvin-Long House is a one-story frame turn-of-the-century cottage clad in weatherboards. It has an asymmetrical roofline with a high hip central block and a corner gable. An attached wraparound porch carries across two-thirds of the front, south elevation and one-half of the east elevation. The porch, supported by four Doric columns, abuts a bay window at the southwest corner. Behind the porch the center entrance is flanked by a single one-over-one double-hung sash window. A gable roof which sits above part of the porch springs from the eaves and the bay window is capped by a clipped gable roof (probably a replacement). Between these two features is a hip roof dormer containing a single window; a similar dormer is located on the east and rear elevations. A second bay window is attached to the west elevation below a projecting gable roof, and a one-story kitchen wing with an interior chimney

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extends to the rear. Another gable sprouts from the east elevation and the two main interior chimneys have corbeled caps. There are no interior features of note. In 1909 Fred E. Garvin and his wife Annie D. Garvin bought this lot for \$400 from his father J. A. Garvin, and the house was probably built soon after. The Garvins later built another house (69) on Sixth Street and sold this property in 1922 to Glenn Long. Long may have occupied the house until 1928 when he bought and later remodeled the present Glenn Long House (19) on North Main Avenue. The house has changed hands a number of times between that time and 1973 when the current owner, Frank Smith, bought it.

66. Rhyne-Gabriel House  
224 W. 6th Street  
ca. 1915  
C

The Rhyne-Gabriel House is an impressive and well-preserved two-story brick-veneered early Colonial Revival dwelling, three bays wide. It has a wraparound porch, two story projecting side bays, and a hip roof with a center hip roof dormer. Eight square posts resting on a low brick wall support the porch which extends across the front, south elevation and midway along the east elevation. The central entrance is framed by sidelights and a three-part transom. One-over-one double-hung sash flank the door, and similar units are employed throughout the composition. A block modillion cornice is carried around the house. A one-story flat roofed wing is attached to the rear elevation. Watson Andrew Rhyne (1873-1929) founded the Rhyne Hardware Company and was mayor of Newton at the time of his death. He married Sarah E. Williams (1878-1939). Their daughter Willie (1899-1975) married Heath Gargille Gabriel (1896-1979), and they occupied the house until their death. Gabriel worked for his father-in-law and then assumed operation of the store in 1928. Born in the Terrell community of Catawba County, his parents were Robert E. and Hannie Ione (Sherrill) Gabriel. A graduate of Catawba College, he later taught school for four years in the Catawba County school system. Mayor of Newton during W.W. II, Gabriel was an alderman and former president of the Newton Merchants Association and the Hardware Association of the Carolinas.

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67. John H. Foard House  
218 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1947

F

The Foard House is a one-and-one-half story late Colonial Revival, style dwelling, three bays wide. It features a stone veneer on the first story and wide woodshingles in the upper story and on the dormers. On the principal, south elevation the center entrance is set behind the engaged porch. Paired six-over-six double-hung sash windows flank the entrance. The east bay is a full two stories in height with a gable roof and there are gable roof dormers on axis with the door and west bay. Stone end chimneys rise on both side elevations and one- and two-story wings extend to the rear of the house. A detached two-car garage--connected to the house by a lattice-screened passage--is covered with woodshingles and sports a small gable roof dormer. John H. Foard, a salesman of farm machinery, built this house about 1947 but later moved to Wilmington. G. Sam Rowe, Jr., the son of the late G. Sam Rowe, Sr. now owns and occupies the house.

68. Alonzo H. Crowell House  
212 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1905

C

The Crowell House is a large two-story asymmetrically massed turn-of-the-century dwelling with a wraparound porch. Its original sheathing has been replaced by wide aluminum siding. The front, south elevation has a two-story bay at the west corner which projects slightly from the high hip roofed central block. Supported by Tuscan columns, connected by a slatted balustrade, the porch stretches across the entire front elevation and along the east elevation where it abuts a two-story wing. The central entrance behind the porch is surmounted by a transom; it is flanked by a large fixed sash window to the east and a single one-over-one double-hung sash window in the west bay. Three windows are similarly arranged on the second story. A bay window is attached to the west elevation, and one- and two-story hip roofed wings extend to the rear where there is also a small porch. Additional features

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include the three interior chimneys, one exterior chimney, and the tin shingle roof. The interior finish was not examined. Alonzo H. Crowell (1865-1933) was born in Abbeyville, South Carolina to Dr. H. H. Crowell and the former Miss Mildred Shuford (a native of Catawba County). Alonzo removed to Hickory (prior to 1896 and perhaps from South Carolina) where he clerked in Philo G. Hall's store and then worked in the First National Bank. In 1896 he moved to Newton where he assisted with the organization of the Shuford National Bank. This house was probably built soon after he acquired the lot on which it now stands in 1905. He remained with the bank for thirty-seven years and had become its president in 1921. His first wife was Lillie Burgin of Hickory and after her death he married Jennie Worth (1878-1971), a native of Ashe County.

69. Fred E. Garvin House  
204 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1922  
P

The Fred E. Garvin House is a large two-story, three-bay brick veneered "square house." Its front, south elevation features an attached porch which leads to a terrace at the west end and a porte-cochere at the east end. Six rectangular brick piers, which rest on a high brick wall, support the low hip roof of the porch. Behind the porch wide sidelights border the center doorway which is located between paired trios of one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A trio of windows is flanked by paired windows on the second story. The low hip roof featuring broad eaves also has a center hip roof dormer on the principal elevation. Additional elements of the composition include the use of yellow brick for the quoins, two interior chimneys, and the high brick wall of the porte-cochere. A one-story wing is attached to the west elevation and one- and two-story wings project to the rear. The interior features darkly stained boxed beams in the parlor, a glazed tile mantel, French doors opening off of the hall, and a divider of square posts atop half-wall bookcases leading to the parlor. Fred E. Garvin (1872-1956) was the son of James A. and Mary (Elliott) Garvin. The elder Garvin was Newton's postmaster from August 31, 1877 to July 20, 1885. After a brief period away from Newton in the late 1880s, the Garvins returned; and in 1893 Fred and his father opened a "Racket Store"

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at the 1955 site of the Young Men's Shop. Later he served in the Spanish-American War. In 1912 Garvin purchased the M. J. Rowe Furniture Store which he operated until his retirement in 1944. Garvin was elected major in 1918 served for many years as chairman of the school board (1919-1930, and was a former director and president (1935-46) of the Citizens Building and Loan Association of Newton. In 1900 he married Annie Delores Post (1880-1975), whose father operated the old St. Hubert's Inn in Newton. After Mrs. Garvin's death the house was sold to Sylvia Franks. She lived here until 1978 when it was purchased by Carol and Virginia Pieters. In 1979 Michael and Caroline Keenan moved into the house.

70. W. Cowles Gaither House  
126 W. 6th Street  
ca. 1940

F

{1938 tax records}

The Gaither House is a large and impressive 1940s Colonial Revival style house that has a full facade portico and a brick veneer. Capped by a flat roof, the portico is supported by four square posts. The center entrance is framed by a leaded glass fanlight and sidelights and flanked by eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows. Similar windows are employed above, but elsewhere six-over-six windows have been used. Attached to the side, west elevation is a recessed one-story two-bay wing composed of gable roof wall dormers, above single-double-hung sash windows. An exterior end chimney rises through this wing at its junction with the main block. Another end chimney is situated on the east elevation, and it has two tapered paved shoulders. A two-story gable roof wing extends to the rear of the house giving the main block a T-shaped plan. Flanking the wing is a gable roof two-car garage and a screened porch. As a result of Mr. Gaither's recent death, it has not been possible to inspect the interior of the house. William Cowles Gaither (1900-1984) was a native of Catawba County, the son of Joseph Albert and Cora (Cowles) Gaither. A graduate of Catawba College (1923), he was one of the organizers of the Ridgeview Hosiery Mill, president, and chairman of the board. Gaither was a member of the Newton-Conover School Board member and was involved in the organization of the Catawba County Library, serving on its board in the 1950s. He married Alice Comer (1902-1974).

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71. Shuford-Fortinberry House  
118 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1915  
F

Although it is one of the older houses on Sixth Street, the Shuford-Fortinberry House has been extensively altered. This small frame house, one story in height and clad in wide aluminum siding, has a hip roofed central block and gable roof wings. The front, south elevation has a wing at the southwest corner and the entrance on the recessed wall. Paired double-hung sash windows are positioned in the wing and to the east of the door. A replacement porch and porch posts stretches across two-thirds of the elevation. Gable roof wings are located on the rear and east elevation, and there is one interior and one exterior chimney. In 1915 Miss Pinkey Shuford (1873-\_\_\_\_) bought this lot from J. Carl Wagner for \$440. Whether the house stood on the lot at that time is unclear, but it seems reasonable to assume that it was built soon after Miss Shuford acquired the property. Shuford, a milliner, and her mother lived here until their deaths, according to one source. Local tradition also maintains that Luther M. Epps also lived here before he built a house (57) diagonally across from this one. A number of subsequent owners includes L. F. Fortinberry, the present occupant, who has lived here for a number of years.

72. Cecil Arndt House  
114 W. 6th St.  
ca. 1935  
C

The Arndt house is a one-and-one-half story, brick-veneered late Tudor Revival house which has a varied silhouette. The house's very dark chocolate color brick has a rough texture made possible by the use of clinker bricks in the veneer. On the front, south elevation a steeply pitched and slightly off-axis gable abuts a tapered chimney to the west, and to the east its roof flares outward to engage the porch. This porch extends outward on the east elevation where it is capped by a gable roof; two brick piers support the gable. A narrow but steep gable envelopes the segmentally arched entrance located at the southwest corner. Broad gable roofs frame

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the side and rear elevations. Although little biographical information has been uncovered about the Arndt family, local sources suggest that the house was built by Cecil Arndt, a local building contractor. He died soon after WW II, and Mrs. Arndt, the former Ruth Pope, moved to Florida with her three daughters.

73. Millard E. Winecoff House

113 W. 7th St.

ca. 1954

I

This intrusive house is one story in height, three bays wide and is sheathed in aluminum siding and a brick veneer. A gable roof enframes one bay and the center entrance and the third bay is situated behind an engaged porch which extends to a carport. Millard E. Winecoff bought this lot in 1954 and it is assumed that the house was built soon after.

74. Charles L. Everhardt House

117 W. 7th St.

ca. 1926

C

The Everhardt House is a large one-and-one-half story three-bay handsome bungalow sheathed in beaded siding. An attached gable roof porch dominates the eastern two-thirds of the front, north elevation, and a gable roof dormer is situated over the west bay. Four large square posts rest on a low stone wall and support the broad porch gable which is detailed with purlin brackets and three small double-hung sash windows. The central entrance is flanked to the east by a recessed trio of windows and a similar group to the west; the upper sash have narrow vertical panes. A group of three windows and purlin brackets are features of the dormer. Shallow bays with bracketed shed roofs are attached to both the west and east elevations and a gable roof wing stretches across the rear elevation. Purlin brackets and exposed rafter ends are visible throughout the composition, and one interior chimney survives. A high brick basement at the rear of the house denotes the change in topography from front to back. The interior is much less elaborate than the exterior detailing would lead us to believe. Its most

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noteworthy features include the French doors which lead from the living room to the dining room, and the imitation tile blocks scored into the plaster in the kitchen. Charles Lafayette Everhardt (1881-1948) was a native of Davidson County and was associated with the Shuford National Bank in Newton for over thirty years. Belle Watts (1887-1973), who lived here until 1971 when she sold the house to Julian G. Whitener. Whitener sold it to Earle Downes in 1975.

75. E. S. Shelby House  
123 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1922  
C

This well-maintained one-and-one-half story three-bay bungalow features an engaged porch and porte-cochere at the west end and a large center gable roof dormer. The house is clad in weatherboards and replacement asphalt shingles. Groups of two and three square porch posts rest on a low brick wall and support the broad flared eaves and porte-cochere. The center door, which reveals modest Craftsman style detailing, is flanked by trios of one-over-one double-hung sash windows. Three windows are positioned in the dormer. Shed roof bays are located on both the west and east side elevations, and a gable roof wing extends to the rear. Purlin brackets are used in the gable ends, and there are two interior chimneys. On the interior, French doors lead from the parlor to the dining room and there are boxed beams in the parlor but the woodwork has been painted and there are no noteworthy mantels. Little biographical information has been uncovered about the early owner of this house, E. S. Shelby. In 1919 he made an agreement to purchase the property for \$7500 which was carried out in 1920. Shelby's will was probated in 1926, and it left the house to his wife Cora A. Shelby and son Jonathan Shelby. Mrs. Shelby turned the house over to her son who subsequently sold it in 1953 to Harry Henry Jenkins. Jenkins sold the property in 1959 to William H. Lutz, the present owner.

76. Phifer-Bost-Sigman House  
129 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1888  
C

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Although a number of exterior and interior alterations have been made to this house, it retains the most significant features of its original Greek Revival/Italianate farmhouse configuration. Two stories in height and three bays wide, the front, north elevation has an attached porch and a bracketed cornice. The replacement (ca. 1920) porch has a flat roof and balustrade, and it is supported by tapered posts which rest on a low brick wall. Framed by sidelights and a transom, the center entrance is flanked by replacement twelve-over-one double-hung sash windows. On the second story four-over-four double-hung sash windows are situated between pairs of brackets. All of the original windows and doors have pedimented lintels. Barge-boards and end returns are visible on the gable ends. Originally, a one-story gable roof kitchen wing with an exterior chimney extended from the southwest corner but later additions to its east elevation have altered its scale. Two single shoulder tapered chimneys are located on the rear elevation of the two-story block; their stacks have been replaced and the lower sections stuccoed. The interior has been substantially altered from the original. This includes a turn-of-the-century staircase (apparently reworked using original materials), some five horizontal panel doors, and a Neo-Classical Revival style mantel. However, some of the older Greek Revival details do remain. These include a simple vernacular mantel, two (vertical) panel pegged doors, and typical door and window surrounds as well as baseboards. Unlike many examples, the window surrounds are the same along all four sides of the opening and not just three, serving as a true frame for the opening. The early history of this house remains something of a mystery. Sidney L. Yount, who had purchased twenty-six acres of land in this area in 1881, began to sell smaller parcels from it that same year. He sold the property in question to Thomas A. Warlick in 1882 for \$200. Warlick conveyed the same lot in 1885 to Henrietta A. Hightower for \$625, and Hightower conveyed it two years later to C. H. Deal for \$225. Deal sold it to H. A. Hunsucker in 1888 for \$325; Hunsucker sold the lot that same year to John Y. Phifer for \$900; and R. A. Bost purchased it from Phifer in 1897 for \$800. The rapid exchange of ownership might suggest that nothing had been built on the lot until the mid to late 1880s but this is far from clear. Stylistically, the house appears to date from the 1870s or early 1880s, but it is possible that it was erected as late as the second half of the 1880s. Even though the house retains retarditaire

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Greek Revival style interior architectural details, its bracketed cornice and decorative bargeboards are identical to the mid 1880s Henkel-Williams-White House (38) on N. Ashe Avenue. One possibility is that the house was moved to this site, however that cannot be documented. Phifer may be the first occupant of the house here. Robert A. Bost, son of Jonas Bost, and his family lived here until 1913 when his heirs sold the property to R. A. Little. Loy E. Sigman, Sr. (1886-1957) purchased the property in 1919, and he added the bungalow style porch, the replacement windows on the first story of the front elevation, and raised the roof of the rear kitchen wing. The Sigmans also remodeled the interior. He lived here until his death. Sigman's daughter Kathryn R. and her husband Edgar Gurley still live here.

77. Phillips-Wagner House  
203 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1905, remodeled 1920s  
C

The front, north elevation of this one-story brick-veneered house is three bays wide and has a projecting gable roof wing at the northwest corner. Paired double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash flank the center entrance; it is located below a hood supported by brackets. A flat-roofed porch with two square posts extends from the east elevation where it is positioned below a gable. There are two interior chimneys. One story gable and shed roofed wings extend from the rear of the house. One of them has brick walls and according to local tradition it was part of the older house. Another section of that house is now a detached outbuilding. According to the house's present owner, Fred B. Cline, the building was occupied by L. H. Phillips and then for a short while by Robert P. Caldwell before he moved to the house (44) now located at the southwest corner of N. Ashe Ave. and W. Seventh St. There have been numerous owners since then, including the Wagner family who owned it in the late 1940s and 1950s.

78. Albert Cline House  
211 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1900  
C

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The Albert Cline House, now subdivided into apartments, is a large, asymmetrically <sup>massed</sup> two-story three-bay frame dwelling sheathed in weatherboards. It has an asymmetrical roof composed of multiple cross gables, and a replacement porch which extends across the front, north elevation terminating in a porte-cochere at the east end. Nine square posts which rest on a low brick wall support the hip roof of the porch. Behind it the center entrance abuts a single two-over-two double-hung sash window. Similar windows occupy the east and projecting west bays, as well as the three bay second story. Gable roofs which project from the main roof cap the outer bays. Two-story flat and gable roof wings project to the rear of the house where there are two interior chimneys. The roof is clad in tin shingles. Albert C. Cline (1876-1958) a native of Catawba County was the son of Cicero and Sulina Cline. He and his brother Robert Cline operated a general store in Newton for a number of years. Later Albert became an automobile mechanic. In 1904 Albert married Etta Cline (1878-1923), daughter of Gilbert and Dora Cline. They moved into this house sometime between 1905 and 1907. The family had moved out by the 1930s, and it passed through a number of subsequent owners. It is now a multi-unit apartment house (recently converted).

79. Garvin-Gilbert House  
303 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1900  
C

The Garvin-Gilbert House is a one-story, L-shaped frame building clad in weatherboards. It is three bays wide and features two gable roof rear wings. The front, north elevation contains a trio of two-over-two double-hung sash windows to the east of the entrance. A pair of similar windows are located on the projecting gable roof west bay. Positioned in the gable peak of this wing is an ornate scroll-sawn truss-like ornament. The flat roof entrance porch appears to be a replacement. Two one-story gable roof wings extend to the rear; the easternmost has a single interior chimney. According to local tradition this house was built by Frank Garvin, a son of James A. Garvin and the brother of Fred Garvin. The Garvin Family was involved in a number of businesses in Newton during the late

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nineteenth and early twentieth centuries including a dry goods store, a boot and shoe store, furniture store, and an undertaking concern. The house was moved about 1943 to this site from one just to the west where the Thomas R. Owen House is located. The Garvins had apparently sold the original house lot to Owen, moved this house to an adjacent piece of their property, and then sold it sometime thereafter. During this move, the porch was probably altered to its present configuration. In 1948 George E. Gilbert bought the house and lived there at least until 1973.

80. Thomas R. Owen House  
315 W. 7th St.  
1944

F

One and one-half stories in height and three bays wide, the Owen House is a Colonial Revival style dwelling sheathed in a brick veneer and wide German siding in the pent gable ends. The front, north elevation contains a central entrance with a leaded glass fanlight and sidelights. Single eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows flank this entrance. Three gable roof dormers are symmetrically arranged across the elevation. A recessed gable roof wing projects from the east elevation and a similar screened porch extends to the west. One exterior chimney rises through this side porch and along the main endwall. A shed roof dormer sheathed in German siding stretches across the rear elevation, and the rear entrance has a bell cast roof over it. An open atrium connects the house to the two-car garage, itself clad in German siding and featuring an exterior chimney. Thomas R. Owen (1899- ), former chairman of the board and treasurer of Owen-United Insurance Agency, was the construction supervisor of the Newton Elementary School (1923) and the Catawba County Courthouse (1927). He and his wife still live in this house which they built in 1944.

81. Flora McConnell House  
401 W. 7th Street  
1922

C

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This one-story three-bay bungalow is sheated entirely in woodshingles. On the front, north elevation the entrance is located at the northeast corner below a small shallow gable. A bay window with double-hung sash windows containing narrow vertical panes in the upper sash is positioned in the center of the wall and a single window is located to the west. Situated above and between the center and west bay is a small gable roof dormer with small four-pane windows and purlin brackets. An attached gable roof bay on the east elevation is framed by the main end gable, and a smaller shed roofed bay (the windows since removed) is attached to the west elevation. The gable ends are detailed with purlin brackets and the eaves with exposed rafter ends. Additions to the rear of the house include a one-story gable roof wing and the detached garage connected by a porch. There are two interior and one exterior chimneys. Flora (Sherrill) McConnell (1876-1961) was a native of Sherrills Ford in Catawba County, the daughter of Thomas Alexander Sherrill and Laura (Robinson) Sherrill. A resident of Newton for some fifty years, Mrs. McConnell was married to Ralph Alonzo McConnell (\_\_\_\_-1907). Her two daughters Laura and Ethel McConnell still own and occupy the house. They recalled that the house was built by their mother in 1922.

82. J. Paul Wagner House  
409 W. 7th Street  
1937

F

The Wagner House is a one-story asymmetrically massed dwelling clad in a brick veneer. On the front, north elevation a steeply pitched gable intersects the main roof behind it and frames the projecting gable roof round arched entrance porch. A tripartite composition of double-hung sash windows composed of a large six-over-one between smaller four-over-ones flank the entryway. A terrace leads from the entrance to an attached enclosed porch on the west elevation. Its round arches now frame the multi-pane windows which were added in 1939. Round arched attic vents are located in each of the gable peaks, a large one-story gable roof wing extends to the rear, and there are two interior chimneys. In addition, the soldier course flat arches are detailed with yellow bricks which imitate skewbacks.

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A two-car garage on the property was also built in 1937. J. Paul Wagner (1909- ) is the son of Herbert L. Wagner and Pearl Miller Wagner. An electrician by trade, Wagner designed the house which was built by Dick Howard from the Denver area of Lincoln County.

83. Russell W. Whitener House  
316 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1941

F

The Whitener House is a two-story three-bay late Georgian Revival style dwelling clad in a brick veneer. A full two-story pedimented portico dominates the front, south elevation. Supported by four tall Tuscan columns the pediment has a demi-lune in its tympanum and modillion blocks on the horizontal and raking cornices. The central entrance has leaded glass sidelights framed by pilasters and a broken pediment with a dentil string; it is flanked by eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows. Similar windows are arranged across the second story below the cornice which is detailed with modillion blocks. One-story gable roof wings extend from both the east and west elevations where exterior chimneys rise between the wings and the main block. One-story gable roof wings at the rear of the house include a garage. Russell Winfield Whitener (1892-1959) was born in the Mountain View section of Catawba County to Daniel and Alice (Kincaid) Whitener. A 1917 graduate of Catawba College, Whitener became the principal of Startown School and served in that capacity for eight years until he went to law school. During his tenure it became the Startown Farm Life School. Whitener received his M.A. degree from the University of North Carolina and his law degree in 1927 from Wake Forest University. Before moving to Newton in 1930 Whitener practiced law in Sparta with Congressman R. A. Doughton and State Supreme Court Judge Carlyle Higgins. In Newton he was associated with Clarence Clapp, Sr. and was solicitor of the Catawba County Recorder's Court from 1934 to 1944. A presidential elector from North Carolina in 1945, Whitener was a prominent local Democrat and lawyer. In 1927 he married Harriett Choate of Sparta. She still owns and occupies the house. Before the Whiteners built this house on a lot they bought in 1941, they lived in the Saunders-McRee House (99). Mrs. Whitener recalls that she looked at a number of floor plans and house designs

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(apparently from books and magazines) and selected suitable features. Yount Lumber Company of Newton built it for them.

84. (former) First Baptist Church Parsonage  
308 W. 7th Street  
ca. 1920  
C

This large and expansive one-and-one-half story bungalow is three bays wide and features an engaged porch and a large center gable roof dormer. It is sheathed in plain weatherboards. Four square porch posts which rest on brick plinths and a low wall support the flared eaves. Behind the porch the center entrance is flanked by paired double-hung sash windows. The upper sash have narrow vertical panes. The dormer has a trio of windows and purlin brackets. Other features of the house include the two interior chimneys, exposed rafter ends, and purlin brackets. In November of 1919 the First Baptist Church bought this lot and the house was, in all likelihood, built the following year as a 1921 deed refers to the "parsonage lot." The church probably used this building until they erected another parsonage east of here on W. Seventh Street about 1950. The house had a number of owners until Mrs. Mary G. Franklin, the present owner, purchased it in 1955. At that time it was converted into apartments.

85. Newby-Moss House  
300 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1921  
F

Greatly altered and compromised by the addition of two bay windows and blue aluminum siding this one-and-one-half story house still has bungalow characteristics on its side elevations. The three-bay front, south elevation has a central entrance which lies below a gable roof hood supported by purlin brackets. Modern bay windows flank the door and two small gables on the roof are attic vents. The west bay projects beyond the sidewall where it is capped by a gable roof. An exterior chimney rises on the west elevation and a gable roof porch with two Tuscan columns extends from the east elevation. In 1921 Theodore A. Newby bought this house from D. B.

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and Pearl Gaither and occupied it until the 1960s. Little additional information has been uncovered, however, on this first owner. Fred and Sadie Moses were the next owners and it was subsequently passed to their niece and her husband James Moss. Moss has been responsible for the extensive alterations.

86. Corpening-Coley House  
216 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1904  
C

The Corpening-Coley House is a one-story, turn-of-the-century frame cottage with an expansive porch and wide asbestos siding. Its asymmetrical silhouette is achieved through the juxtaposition of the high hip roof and projecting gables at the corners and small dormers. The porch stretches across the front, south elevation terminating in a porte-cochere at the east end. It is carried by square posts resting on brick plinths. Behind the porch one-over-one double-hung sash windows flank the center entrance. Gable and hip roof wings extend to the rear of the house. Both are framed by corner gables. There is a small dormer on the west elevation. Ralph S. Corpening, (1886-1962) bought this newly built house in 1904. He lived here with his wife Nora Blanche Deal (1885-1954) after their marriage in 1905 and until they built a new house (87) on the adjacent lot in 1918. Corpening rented the house afterwards. After his death, Corpening's daughter Mrs. B. R. Webster inherited the house. She sold it to her son-in-law Ralph Coley who lives there now.

87. Ralph S. Corpening House  
208 W. 7th St.  
1819  
P

The Corpening House is one of the finest bungalows in the North Main Avenue Historic District. One-and-one-half stories in height and three bays wide, it has an engaged wraparound porch, a center gable roof dormer, and is clad in a brick veneer and woodshingles. The engaged porch extends across the front, south elevation and along one half of the east elevation. Units of one, two, and three brick posts with brick plinths support the porch roof. A slatted

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balustrade carries between the plinths. Single one-over-one double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash flank the center door and its transom. A trio of similar but smaller windows occupies the woodshingled dormer which also has purlin brackets and exposed rafter ends. A shallow gable roof bay is attached to the west elevation and a one-story gable roof wing extends to the rear. Purlin brackets detail the various gable ends, exposed rafter ends are visible throughout, and there is one interior chimney. Interior finishes include a brick mantel with a corbeled mantel shelf in the parlor, French doors leading to the dining room and a smaller front room, and darkly stained woodwork throughout. The dining room has half-wall paneled wainscoting, a mantel with Craftsman details in the overmantel shelf, the original fire box frame and cover, and a multi-colored glazed tile surround. In the parlor and dining room the yellow oak floors are detailed along the edges with strips of mahogany inlays forming a geometric pattern at the corners. Ralph Shuford Corpening (1886-1962) was the son of Albert Melancthon Corpening and Ellen Eugenia "Jean" Miller. A native of Catawba County, Corpening was a graduate of Catawba College and later established the Corpening Motor Company, an automobile dealership. In 1905 he married Nora Blanche Deal (1885-1954), daughter of Sylvanus Deal. She also was a graduate of Catawba College. The Corpening's daughter Mrs. B. R. Webster has occupied the house for a number of years.

88. Witherspoon-Killian House  
128 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1883, remodeled c. 1905  
P

The Witherspoon-Killian House is a large and very impressive two-story three-bay Italianate Style house which is two rooms deep and built of brick laid in common bond. It has a 1905 wraparound porch and paired brick exterior end chimneys. Local tradition maintains that the house was built in the 1880s by Sidney L. Yount, but he did not occupy it. The house's front, south elevation is dominated by the Neo-Classical Revival style two tier center bay porch with Doric columns on paneled plinths, a balustrade with turned balusters, denticulated cornices, gable end returns and a sunburst panel in the tympanum. The porch below sports the same details, and it carries

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around the west and east elevations. Behind the porch the center door, with five panels in its lower half, is bordered by stained glass sidelights (probably early twentieth century replacements) above the panels. Large six-over-six double-hung sash windows and their functional blinds flank the entrance. A door opens onto the porch on the second story. A wide bracketed cornice carries across the elevation. On both the west and east elevations paired single shoulder and chimneys rise between four-over-four double-hung sash windows. Decorative sawn ornamentation survives in both of these gable peaks. A one-story brick kitchen wing with a single shoulder stepped end chimney is attached to the rear elevation where more recent one- and two-story frame additions abut it. On the interior the eight principal rooms are symmetrically grouped to either side of the very wide central hall. At the rear of this hall is the open string staircase. It is composed of one interstory landing, turned balusters, a paneled newel post, and decorative riser brackets on the outer string. Its early twentieth century appearance suggests that it replaced the original stairs, probably at the same time that the porch was updated. Large replacement French doors lead from the hall into the front room where the two (of an original eight) Greek Revival mantels survive. Their entablatures are gently curved and deeply channeled as are the heavy pilasters which frame the fireplace openings. All of the windows and door surrounds on the first story have symmetrically molded profiles and large unornamented cornerblocks. The upper floor has been extensively remodeled by the present owner Loy Sigman and few details survive. However, window surrounds on the side walls still bear the marks showing where the mantel shelf intruded into the surround. The early history of the house is shrouded by a lack of documentary evidence to suggest its builder and a plethora of large and seemingly irreconcilable problems. In 1837 Jacob McGee (1818-1848) acquired 157 acres of land in and around what is now northwest Newton. Part of this land was sold by McGee to Newton's first commissioners for the purpose of establishing the Catawba County seat. The inventory of his estate, which listed numerous hand tools and assorted building materials, suggests that he may have been a carpenter. However, there is no evidence to suggest that he was a brickmason. Whether McGee had commenced or completed the construction of this house prior to his death is not known. His

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wife apparently inherited the property and in 1867 sold thirty-one acres of it to M. L. Cline. Cline, who moved to Hickory in the early 1870s, held onto most of the property until 1881 when Sidney L. Yount (1841-1899) bought twenty-six acres for \$1356. It is with Yount's ownership that the local tradition commences. Yount, who was the county sheriff between 1878 and 1888, a Newton commissioner, and a farmer is said to have built but did not occupy the house. A number of deeds for property on both sides of Seventh St. and extending to N. Ashe Ave. can be traced to the period after 1881 when S. L. Yount sold off lots to various people. It is assumed that these lots were part of his larger twenty-six-acre parcel. In 1884 he sold a two-acre lot (this encompasses the present house lot) to L. L. Witherspoon for \$2,000. Clearly the house had been built by then. Witherspoon (1850-\_\_\_\_) was a lawyer and a mayor of Newton. The property was sold to Anna Killian Barwick in 1911 who in turn sold it to J. Yates Killian (her brother) in 1912. Killian (1874-1953) was a widely known nurseryman and served as president of the North Carolina and Southeastern States Nurserymen's Association. A member and chairman of the Newton school board, he was president of the Catawba County Historical Association, active in the First Baptist Church, and had served three terms in the North Carolina House of Representatives (1909, 1915, 1917). Killian's first wife was Mary Applewhite (1872-1923) and after her death he married Elida Zohr (1896-1939). Killian lived here until his death when the property passed to his daughter Katherine. She sold it in 1955 to Harry and Florence Gallimore, Jr. They lived here until 1962 when the present owner, Loy E. Sigmon, purchased it.

89. (former) First Baptist Church Parsonage  
122 W. 7th St.  
ca. 1951  
F

The (former) Parsonage is a two-story late Georgian Revival style dwelling which is two stories in height and three bays wide. Eight-over-eight double-hung sash windows flank the center entrance behind a porch composed of a bellcast metal roof and wrought iron posts. Two windows occupy the second story. The elevations are enframed by corbeled brick quoins. A hip roofed porch extends from the east

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side elevation, and a two-story wing is located at the rear. An exterior chimney rises along the west elevation. In 1951 the First Baptist Church bought this lot and erected this parsonage. It was their second parsonage along this street. (The first was at 308 W. 7th Street.) It was sold in 1978 to the present owner Larry Self.

90. John F. Huitt House  
21 W. 8th St.  
1932  
C

The Huitt House is a one-story bungalow with a stucco wall finish. Elements of the composition include an engaged porch at the northwest corner, and a small gable roof entrance porch set directly below a second small gable. Trios of double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash flank the entrance. The porch is supported by two brick posts, and the house also features purlin brackets and one interior chimney. A gable roof wing is attached to the side, west elevation, and a small enclosed porch with a shed roof is located at the rear. John F. Huitt (1894-1956), a native of Catawba County, was a brick mason and built the house in 1932. He married Fannie Kale (1892-1981), also a native of Catawba County. Their daughter Virginia (Huitt) Setzer still occupies the house.

91. Pope-Rudisill-Gordon House  
25 W. 8th St.  
ca. 1840s, remodeled 1947  
F

The Pope-Rudisill-Gordon House is a now much compromised two-story, three-bay frame dwelling with wide replacement aluminum siding and entrance porch. On the front, north elevation, the central entrance and sidelights lie behind a tall replacement porch and its non-functional deck. Narrow vertical windows employ six-over-six double-hung sash. Two brick end chimneys have stepped shoulders near the roof, but they have been altered by the addition of a new brick veneer up to the shoulder. A one-story gable roof wing with an attached enclosed porch extends from the rear of the house. The wing has an interior chimney. The house's interior has been

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completely remodeled. The only original feature that survives is the open string staircase. It features a slat balustrade and a delicately molded handrail that has a raised top. The latter presents a pedimented appearance which shows its transitional Federal-Greek Revival character. Local tradition maintains and Sanborn maps confirm that this house was originally located along the west side of N. Main Avenue on the site of the Louis Schrum House (15). The transitional Federal-Greek Revival style characteristics of the house suggests that it dates to the late 1840s or early 1850s. An 1866 deed to Penelope Holt refers to a nine-and-one-half-acre parcel of land in this area as the "Pope House Lot." Further information about the Pope family or their date of acquisition of the property has not been uncovered. In 1867 Holt sold the identical parcel to L. M. Rudisill for \$1,000. Rudisill apparently lived here with his wife (?) Elizabeth until 1901 when they sold the property, now reduced to about two acres, to Walter C. Feimster (24). Feimster probably rented the house until the early 1920s when he sold it to Minnie and Frank Gordon. Their heirs have lived here since that time. It appears from the Sanborn maps that Feimster had the house moved sometime between 1901 and 1924. At that time the end chimneys were rebuilt. In 1947 major exterior and interior remodeling left the house in its present condition.

92. Charles H. Trott House  
30 W. 8th St.  
ca. 1938

F

The Trott House is a one-and-one-half story Colonial Revival style house loosely modeled on a Cape Cod Cottage. It is sheathed entirely in wide woodshingles. On the front, south elevation a steeply pitched gable roof frames two of the three bays. The third is positioned on a recessed wall plane. The central entrance is set behind a modest entrance porch whose gable roof is supported by two wrought iron posts. Six-over-six double-hung sash occupy the bays, the one to the west being paired. Both side elevations have broad gables, and the west elevation contains a gable roof wing. A large single shoulder paved chimney is located on the west wing and an exterior chimney is attached to the east elevation. The rear elevation has a large shed roofed dormer and an attached enclosed

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porch. Charles H. Trott (1907- ) is the youngest son of William W. and Tululah (Wilson) Trott. He built this house on part of his father's sizable parcel of land which stretched from N. Main Ave. to N. Ashe Ave. Charles' brother William built a house (34) to the west of his. Their father's faces N. Main Avenue. Trott is married to Wilma Bush, a native of Newton.

93. Setzer-Harvell House  
123 W. 8th St.  
ca. 1915  
C

Two stories in height and sheathed in weatherboards, the large Setzer-Harvell House has a vague Neo-Classical Revival style appearance mixed with bungalow characteristics. Its front, north elevation is dominated by a large pediment which projects from the low hip roof and enframes the engaged porch below. Four double-hung sash windows with Queen Anne style upper sash occupy the second story of the wing. The square porch posts below are brick. A narrow pent skirt separates these two features. The recessed entrance is flanked by paired nine-over-one double-hung sash windows. Shallow hipped roof bays are attached to both the west and east elevations. The latter has brick posts at its outside corners and a low brick wall. Perhaps it was originally a porch. A small gable roof wing and shed roofed porch are located at the rear elevation, and there are two interior chimneys. This house was built by D. Lee Setzer for his son Pete Setzer, but whether he occupied it is unclear. In 1917 Mr. Harvell bought the house. Martin Alonzo Harvell (1874-1934) was born near Catawba and was a plumber by trade. He married Lou Alda Sigmon (1874-1961) who was also a native of Catawba County. Their son R. W. Harvell owns and occupies the house. He recalls hearing that the house was built in 1915.

94. Sherrill-Isenhower House  
205 W. 8th St.  
ca. 1923  
C

Clad in weatherboards and woodshingles, this one-story bungalow has an asymmetrical roof silhouette. A large gable front porch

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supported by four brick porch posts extends across part of the front, north and east elevations. It intersects the main cross gable roof which is of unequal height. Behind the porch the entrance is flanked by a pair of double-hung sash windows to the east and a trio to the west. The upper sash are of Queen Anne style derivation. Other features of the house include purlin brackets, one exterior and one interior chimney, exposed rafter ends, and a shed roof bay on the west elevation. Charles Lee Sherrill (1887-1947), the original owner of this house, was the son of Henry and Emma (Drum) Sherrill. He was a long-time barber in Newton. Sherrill had moved to Drexel prior to his death. He married Beulah Settlemyre. Dr. Samuel H. Isenhower and his wife Dorothy Long, daughter of Dr. Glenn Long (19), bought the property in 1947, and he still occupies it. The Isenhowers added the rear wing in 1949.

95. S. E. Shook House  
211 W. 8th St.  
ca. 1919  
C

This symmetrically composed, three bay one-and-one-half-story bungalow contains an engaged porch and a large center gable roof, dormer. Aluminum siding has replaced the original weatherboards and woodshingles. Paired and tripled porch posts which rest on a low brick wall support the flared eaves of the expansive roof. The center entrance and sidelights are framed by trios of double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash. Four similar windows are employed in the woodshingled dormer. A small, one-story gable roof wing projects from the west side of the house. Purlin brackets and two interior chimneys are additional features. S. E. Shook (1876-1948) was a native of Catawba County and the son of J. C. Shook and Catherine Lowrance Shook. A conductor on the Southern Railroad, Shook had been employed by the railroad for forty-one years. His wife, whom he married in 1907, was Emma Abernethy McCall (1876-\_\_\_\_). The present owner of the house, Edward Wheeler, has performed a deed search which shows that Shook bought this lot in 1919. It is assumed that the house was built soon after.

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96. Edward G. White House  
217 W. 8th St.  
ca. 1923  
C

One and one-half stories in height and clad in woodshingles and replacement aluminum siding; this large expansive bungalow is similar to its neighbor #211. A large center, gable roof dormer dominates the three-bay principal, north elevation and rises above the engaged porch and attached porte-cochere which extends to the west. The dormer is clad in woodshingles and weatherboards, features purlin brackets, and has three double-hung sash windows. Large brick posts support the slightly flared eaves of the main roof and there of the porte cochere. Trios of double-hung sash windows flank the center entrance and its sidelights. There is a shallow bay on the east elevation that has a shed roof. The interior fixtures have not been examined. Edward Grimes White (1881-1947) bought this lot from S. E. Shook in 1923, and it is assumed that the house was built soon after. White was the son of Albert and Margaret (Stevenson) White, both natives of Iredell County. Albert was living on S. College Avenue at the time of his death. He married Alice Shuford (1873-1962). This house has changed hands a number of times since 1946 when Burlington Mills Corporation bought it.

97. Rowe-Bandy House  
301 W. 8th St.  
ca. 1919  
C

Sheathed in weatherboards and woodshingles, the varied silhouette of this one-story bungalow is achieved by the juxtaposition of its gable and hip roofs. It was built about 1919 by Charles M. Rowe. The broad hip roof defines the basic massing of the house and envelopes the wraparound porch. From this roof a gable roof bay projects from the front and immediately to the east is a small gable on the hip. Five square porch posts rest on a low brick wall, and the house also features purlin brackets, double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash, and two interior chimneys. Charles Munroe Rowe (1877-1939) bought the lot on which this house stands in 1919 and probably built here soon after. Rowe was a

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merchant in North Newton. He also owned a considerable amount of property in Newton. At the time of his death Rowe lived in North Newton, and it seems possible that he probably rented this house, perhaps even when it was first built. No record of transfer has been located prior to their deaths. In 1951 Harold Bandy purchased the property at a commissioner's sale. Bandy and his wife Mildred lived here until 1979 when they sold the property to Michael Lee Hefner. The Hefners sold it that same year to the present owner Robert L. and Mary C. Smith.

98. Rowe-Wilkinson House  
622 N. Deal Ave.  
ca. 1935  
F

One story in height and four bays wide, this small brick-veneered Colonial Revival house has an entrance porch and a terrace. The front, east elevation features the gable roof porch supported by two thin Doric columns, paired six-over-one double-hung sash windows flanking the entrance, and a slightly recessed south bay. The latter has narrow four-over-four double-hung sash windows beside a larger six-over-one. Two gable roof dormers are positioned above and on either side of the porch gable. There is one interior chimney. On the rear elevation there are two shed roof wings as well as a single dormer. G. Sam Rowe, Sr. built this house about 1935. Later he moved his family into a new house (59) on W. Sixth Street. The Rowe's sold this house in 1948 to Richard J. Barber. Subsequent owners were Robert Warren Litten (1964), and Perry D. Huitt (1966). The Wilkinsons have lived here since the late 1970s.

99. Saunders-McRee House  
616 N. Deal Ave.  
ca. 1923  
C

The Saunders-McRee House is a well executed one-and-one-half story three-bay bungalow sheathed in German siding and woodshingles. The front, east elevation features an engaged wraparound porch and a large center gable roof dormer. Enveloped by the roof's flared eaves, the porch extends across the front and one-half of the south elevation.

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The porch is supported by seven tapered wood piers on brick plinths. Its southern half is screened. Behind it the central entrance is flanked by paired double-hung sash windows with narrow vertical panes in the upper sash. The dormer has paired windows, purlin brackets and a truss ornament in the gable peak. A shallow shed roofed bay is attached to the north elevation, a larger shed roofed wing extends across the rear elevation, and a center dormer is positioned on this same side (without the decorative treatment of the front dormer). Details of the house include the purlin brackets used throughout, truss ornaments in the gable peaks, exposed rafter ends, two interior chimneys, and one single shoulder stepped exterior chimney on the north elevation. Permission to examine the interior of the house was not granted. Clarence M. Saunders (1880-1936), a native of Gaston County, was the owner of a grocery store which he operated until he retired in 1934. In 1903 he married Rachel Drum (1885-1963), a native of Newton. They lived here, as local sources recall, until the Depression. The second long-time occupant of the house was Clyde F. McRee (1907-1981), former chief of the State bridge maintenance department in Catawba County. His widow Iva (1909- ) still occupies the house.

100. Simpson-Elliott House  
615 N. Deal Ave.  
ca. 1950  
F

This small one-story house is three bays wide and sheathed in a brick veneer. Paired six-over-six double-hung sash windows flank the entrance on the front, west elevation. An exterior chimney is located on the north elevation. Winnie (Warlick) Simpson, who earlier resided in house (13) on N. Main Ave. built this house on a lot she purchased in 1950.

101. Lemon Rental Property  
613 N. Deal Ave.  
1958  
F

One story in height and four narrow bays wide, this house is finished in a roughly textured brick veneer. The entrance is located between

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two six-over-six double-hung sash windows and a fourth is located to the extreme right. One exterior chimney rises on the north side elevation and there is one interior chimney. Harry L. Lemon (64) built this house for his son Harry L. Lemon, Jr., in 1958. The younger Lemon was at that time attending Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory. Mrs. Lemon sold the house to Deborah Elliott in 1984.

102. Caldwell Rental Property  
600 N. Deal Ave.  
ca. 1940  
F

Built for and still used as a rental property, this brick-veneered duplex is two stories in height and two bays wide. Paired six-over-six double-hung sash windows are symmetrically arranged on the front, east elevation. On the side elevation small enclosed entrance porches are capped with a balustrade on their flat roofs. Corbeled quoins are visible at each corner of the house. There is one center chimney which rises between the two-story duplexes. Dr. Lawrence M. Caldwell bought this lot in 1940 and probably built this duplex soon after. He still owns it.

103. Abernethy-Wilkerson House  
421 N. Cline Ave.  
ca. 1905  
F

This small one-story house has been substantially altered by the addition of wide aluminum siding and a new porch with wrought iron posts. Two gables dominate the four bay principal, west elevation. One caps a projecting bay and the other rises from the roof. Two-over-two double-hung sash windows occupy the bays. The entrance abuts the wing. Two gable roof wings of unequal length extend to the rear of the house. There are two interior chimneys. The house was built by William R. Abernethy (1879-\_\_\_\_) whose parents lived in a large house facing W. Sixth Street (now located at 411 N. Cline Avenue). He and his family lived here until about 1922 when they moved into a bungalow (58) on W. Sixth Street. James R. Wilkerson, the present owner, bought the property in 1950.

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104. Finch-Gabriel House  
417 N. Cline Ave.,  
ca. 1923  
C

The Finch-Gabriel house is a one-story three-bay bungalow featuring an engaged porch and porte-cochere as well as a center gable roof dormer. Aluminum siding has replaced the original (now unknown) sheathing material. The porch has four brick posts rising from a low wall, but thin wrought iron posts have replaced what were probably brick piers supporting the porte-cochere. Paired double-hung sash windows containing narrow vertical panes in the upper sash flank the center entrance. The dormer windows have been replaced, but the purlin brackets remain here as elsewhere on the house. A large gable roof wing extends to the rear to which is attached a shed roof wing. One interior chimney is extant. Little biographical information has been uncovered about the original occupants of this house. Local tradition attributes its construction to the Ben Finch family, but they apparently did not stay in Newton for any length of time. The present owner, Joseph B. Gabriel, served as the Newton City Clerk and treasurer from 1973 to 1982. He bought the house in 1959.

105. Theodore R. Abernethy House  
411 N. Cline Ave.  
ca. 1890s  
P

The Abernethy House is a two-story three-bay frame dwelling sheathed in weatherboards. It has a hipped roof porch across its front west first-story elevation and a gable porch in the center bay of the second story. Six turned posts with scroll-sawn brackets support the hip roofed porch. A balustrade, wood shingles, turned posts and a truss-like ornament detail the second-story porch. The center entrance is framed by sidelights which contain stencilled glass. The upper door also has sidelights. Two-over-two double-hung sash windows flank the doors on both stories. Sawn brackets detail the eaves and the gable ends feature pointed attic vents and modest bargeboards. A two-story wing extends (eastward) from the rear of the house, and there is a shed roofed dormer on the north roof, a shed roofed ell below, and a hip-roofed wing at the east-southeast

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corner. The house sits on a concrete block foundation laid when the building was moved in the 1940s from its original site on W. Sixth Street. Now converted to apartments, its only surviving interior feature is the open string staircase which has a fluted and paneled newel post. Theodore R. Abernethy (1848-\_\_\_\_) was a longtime pharmacist in Newton. He became a member of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association in 1880, and by 1884 had established the drugstore of Abernethy and Williams. By 1890 he was sole owner of the business which was still operating as T. R. Abernethy and Co. in 1905. He was a town commissioner in 1890. Abernethy married Janie Campbell (1855-\_\_\_\_) in 1873. Their daughter Katie married the Rev. R. A. Lapsley, Jr., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, and they occupied the house for a number of years. G. Sam Rowe, Sr. bought the property in the 1940s and moved the house in order to build a new home on the lot. Mrs. Rowe still owns the rental house.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1866-1936      **Builder/Architect** Various/unknown - see inventory list

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The North Main Avenue Historic District, taking its name from the principal residential street in the district, is important in the history of Newton and Catawba County as the largest concentration of houses, educational buildings, religious structures, and industrial resources in the city and county seat which date from the 19th century and the first four decades of the 20th century. Newton was designated as the county seat following the formation of Catawba County from Lincoln County in 1842. The earliest buildings erected in the fledgling town in the antebellum period were clustered around the court house square and along the principal streets leading to the square. North Main Avenue, then known as the Taylorsville Road, was one of those streets. The court house, the antebellum buildings, and nearly all the later 19th-century buildings at the center of town have been lost or replaced and thus this district represents the single most cohesive and intact group of important buildings in the city which represent its role as a local political and trading center from the mid-19th century through the interwar period (1930s). The district includes important buildings from every decade after 1861 and represents the continued importance of the area along North Main Avenue and in the blocks to the west as a significant neighborhood of the town and county's political, business, and social leaders to the present day. Especially noteworthy are: The Andrew J. Seagle House (ca. 1861); the Berrier-McLelland House (ca. 1866); the First Presbyterian Church (1878, 1894); the Witherspoon-Killian House (ca. 1883, ca. 1905); (former) Newton High School (1905, 1935); the Walter Feimster House (1908); Fidelity Hosiery Mill (1910, 1913-1924); the Schrum-Zimbaum House (1924); the Loomis Kluttz House (1927); the Beth Eden Lutheran Church (1929); and the Junius Gaither House (1936).

**CRITERIA ASSESSMENT:**

- A. The buildings in the North Main Avenue Historic District are the oldest group of buildings in the city of Newton which survive in a cohesive neighborhood and which reflect the growth of the village, the county seat of Catawba County (formed in 1842), in the last half of the 19th century and the first four decades of the Twentieth Century. These buildings reflect the district's continued primacy as a residential neighborhood for the community's political and business leaders and, therefore, it also contains important churches and educational buildings.
- B. The North Main Avenue Historic District is associated with the lives of many persons important in the history of Newton and Catawba County, their residences here being the principal (or only) surviving building associated with them: Patrick Oscar Carpenter (1870-1932); Junius R. Gaither (1898-1977); David Belt Gaither (1812-1895); Wade C. Raymer (1892-1959); Winnie Warlick Simpson ( -1984); William Walker Trott (1867-1958); James H. McLelland (1851-1917); Glenn Long (1887-1961) and his wife Cecily (Brawley) Long (1900-1983); George McCorkle (1857- ); Edward Haupt (1901-1963); Andrew Jackson Seagle (1832-1918); Walker C. Feimster (1866-1942); Charles Harden Mebane, Sr. (1862-1926); Loomis F. Kluttz (1888- ); Watson Andrew Rhyne (1873-1929); Fred E. Garvin

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(1872-1956); L. L. Witherspoon (1850- ); J. Yates Killian (1874-1953); and members of the Gaither, Cline, Warlick, Hood, Setzer, Lefler, Rowe, Gabriel, Garvin, Sherrill, and Abernethy families, among others.

- C. The houses, churches, schools, and mill buildings in this district embody the distinctive characteristics of traditional Piedmont buildings during the period from ca. 1860 through the interwar period. Particularly noteworthy, among a large group of contributing buildings, and important buildings from the interwar period are: the Andrew J. Seagle House; the Berrier-McLelland House; the First Presbyterian Church; the Witherspoon-Killian House; the Walter C. Feimster House; the (former) Newton High School; the Loomis Kluttz House; the SchurmpSimtbaum House; the Junius Gaither House; the Fidelity Hosiery Mill; and Beth Eden Lutheran Church.

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The chiefly residential North Main Avenue Historic District, incorporating a significant segment of North Main Avenue and portions of ten blocks to the west of this important thoroughfare, represents an interesting paradox. Its handsome residences, an abandoned hosiery mill, churches, and public school buildings reflect much of Newton's development since its creation in 1842 as Catawba County's seat of government. This growth--primarily a result of the town's role as a trading center for the outlying farming areas, railroad construction before and after the Civil War, the presence of Catawba College, and rapid development of the textile industry during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries--changed Newton from a sleepy village into a significant commercial center. Nevertheless, the neighborhood also exhibits continuity. Main Avenue still serves as the principal link between the industrial section of the city, to the North, and the southern part of Newton, once the site of Catawba College. Furthermore, the impressive houses that line North Main Avenue, which date from the mid-nineteenth century to recent times, reveal the neighborhood's continuing popularity among some of the city's most influential families.

The significance of the North Main Avenue Historic District can best be understood as an integral part of Newton's overall development. The North Carolina General Assembly in 1842 authorized seven commissioners to establish Newton as the county seat of Catawba County. The act, which created Catawba from the northern section of Lincoln County, required the commissioners to select a site of at least fifty acres for the new town. The home of Mathias Barringer, near the center of the county, was to serve as a temporary courthouse.

The county court soon fulfilled the objectives established by the General Assembly. In April 1843, Mathias Setzer, Jacob Deal, and Jacob McGee deeded to Jonas Bost, chairman of Catawba's "select court" of five men, fifty-one acres to be used for the town of Newton. The land lay in the heart of a productive agricultural area that produced primarily various grains and fruit. Newton was located on Three Creek Road, which originated to the South and intersected Island Ford Road near the present site of Conover.<sup>2</sup> Within a year the court hired David Setzer to build a temporary jail and sold lots to raise money for the construction of public buildings.

Plans for the public buildings developed during 1844 and 1845. The court, in June 1844, appointed Jonas Bost, a local carpenter and farmer, as treasurer of public buildings.<sup>4</sup> The following April, Jonas Bost, Joseph Bost, and George P. Shuford received instructions to formulate plans for erecting public buildings. The county court, in June 1845, appointed

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Burton Craig, H. H. Shuford, John H. Wheeler, W. W. Robinson, and Henry Whitener, Jr. as commissioners to contract with a builder. The commissioners advertised for bids in newspapers, stating that the courthouse was to be constructed of brick, rough coated with cement, on a basement of granite. The 40-x-60-foot structure<sup>5</sup> and the jail were to be completed within eighteen months after a contract was signed. The courthouse probably was completed prior to April 1847 when the county court directed the commissioners of public buildings to sell the "old" courthouse in Newton.<sup>6</sup> The court made plans in 1845 for fencing the public square and selecting a site for the public well.

Newton experienced slow, steady growth during the antebellum period, an era characterized in North Carolina by vastly improved agricultural conditions, the beginnings of industrialization, internal improvements, and increasing economic prosperity. The town began to develop as a center of trade and education, but agriculture dominated the economy. In 1850, Newton's eighty-four white inhabitants lived in the area that had become Catawba County, but others had come from surrounding counties and the states of Virginia, South Carolina, Kentucky, and New York. Among the wealthiest citizens were Jonas Bost; E. R. Shuford, a tavern keeper; physician R. S. Shuford; George Setzer, a merchant; and Adam Gross, a farmer. John Pope crafted furniture, Levi Plunk established himself as a saddler, and three members of the Murphy family made shoes. Newton also supported three black-smiths, two grocers, two tailors, and two carriagemakers, among other merchants and craftsmen. Five carpenters constructed the growing community's residences and businesses.<sup>8</sup> Several heads of households owned small farms; of them, E. R. Shuford, Jonas Bost, George Setzer, Jr., and Adam Gross owned a total of thirty-five slaves.

During the 1850s, Newton's expanding population partook of a wider variety of goods and services, possessed greater wealth, and built new residences. Among the 312 white residents in 1860 were 23 slaveholders who owned a total of more than 130 slaves. By this time, Jonas Bost and Adam Gross had opened hotels, and Matthew Locke McCorkle, Newton's first lawyer, had established a practice. Three physicians--T. M. Abernathy, A. B. Paine, and O. Campbell--treated Newton's sick. Other new residents included John Wilfong, an extremely wealthy farmer; F. H. Brune, a German silversmith; and Andrew J. Seagle, part owner of a large tannery. Newton also supported two "Grecian Painters," eight merchants, six shoemakers, a dentist, three teachers, and eight carpenters. The number of houses grew from 18 in 1850 to 54 in 1860. Dwellings standing along or near North Main Avenue by this time likely included the Berrier-McLelland House (17), the A. J. Seagle House (23), and the Pope-Rudisill-Gordon House (91).<sup>11</sup>

Advancements in education also reflected Newton's growing importance. In 1851, the Reformed Church established Catawba College in the "Old Town Academy Building." Chartered by the General Assembly the following year, Catawba College served students--many of German origin--who otherwise would have attended Reformed schools in Pennsylvania.<sup>12</sup> M. L. McCorkle played a pivotal role in securing the college for Newton.

The Reformed and other denominations affected the religious life of Newton's citizens. Grace Evangelical and Reformed Church was established in 1845, and Lutherans formed Beth-Eden Church in 1850. The Methodists<sup>13</sup> founded their congregation in 1854, and the Presbyterian Church organized their flock in 1858.

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The town's steady development led the General Assembly in 1855 to incorporate Newton. Lawmakers appointed M. L. McCorkle, S. G. Miller, George Setzer, O. Campbell, and D. B. Gaither as commissioners and set forth regulations for managing the town. The assembly established corporate limits 1,000 yards in every direction from the courthouse.<sup>14</sup>

The Civil War abruptly arrested Newton's development. The people of Catawba County like other citizens throughout North Carolina, suffered because of high<sup>15</sup> prices, depreciation of currency, and shortages of food, clothing, and other goods. Local men left home to participate in the war effort. Company A of the 12th Regiment of North Carolina Troops--the Catawba Rifles--organized in Newton on April 27, 1861. M. L. McCorkle assembled 146 men in June 1861 to fight as Company F of the 23rd Regiment of North Carolina Troops. One hundred and thirty men enlisted in Company C of the 28th Regiment of North Carolina Volunteers, which left Newton on August 13, 1861.<sup>16</sup>

The absence of young men during the war retarded the progress of Catawba College, which in 1859 had been invigorated by the arrival from Pennsylvania of the Reverend A. S. Vaughan and his family. By the fall of 1860, Vaughan had raised a substantial endowment, but the Civil War caused him to return to Pennsylvania. An academy was conducted in the college facilities until the end of the war.

Soldiers of General George Stoneman's army, noted for their destruction of private property in Western North Carolina during the final days of the conflict, raided Newton in April 1865. George Pope described the episode in a newspaper article written in 1947:

They came up the old Laurel Hill road, which is on the right of the present post-office, yelling, shooting and swearing. They then began to ransack the town. My mother, who was a very small child at that time, was . . . frightened by the din. The Union soldiers took my Grandfather Beard's cow, hogs, and chickens. My grandmother . . . went to the commanding officer and tearfully begged for the return of the cow because of her<sup>18</sup> small children. The Yankee Officer relented and the cow was returned.

The state slowly recovered from the war's drain on economic resources. Between 1865 and 1880, farmers gradually achieved a volume of production comparable to pre-war levels. Industrial concerns, including cotton mills and tobacco factories, also regained a sound footing. The economic condition of North Carolina significantly improved after about 1880. The rest of the century, although a time of financial uncertainty for many farmers, was characterized by increasing investment of local and outside capital in such manufacturing enterprises as cotton mills, large tobacco factories, and furniture plants. Material wealth increased, and towns and cities quickly grew. Extensive railroad construction abetted and resulted from the state's industrialization and growth in prosperity.

The construction of railroads facilitated Newton's development during the late nineteenth century. The Western North Carolina Railroad, which had been chartered in 1855 to provide rail facilities between Salisbury and Asheville, had reached a point thirteen miles east of Morganton by the summer of 1860. An amendment to the charter provided for a branch road from the main line to Newton, a strong interest of such prominent stockholders

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as D. B. Gaither, Dr. A. M. Powell, George Setzer, and M. L. McCorkle. The depot at Newton was under construction by August 1860. The Civil War halted construction of the railroad, however, and, although tracks reached Old Fort in 1869,<sup>20</sup> it was not until 1880 that the line fulfilled the intentions of its original proponents.

The Chester and Lenoir Narrow Gauge Rail Road, which was chartered in 1872 and 1873, reached Newton in July 1883.<sup>21</sup> Four years later, the Newton Enterprise described the new railroad's effect on the town: "The Narrow Gauge (sic) is 'little, but it's loud;' it blows, vigorously, for thirteen road-crossings while passing through town, besides blowing for every chicken path, or pig track that does not fail to escape the vigilant eye of the ever alert engineers. We think, if a stray butterfly should start across the track it would be tooted at."<sup>22</sup>

The Chester and Lenoir Rail Road approached Newton from the southeast and converged on the Western North Carolina Railroad at the extreme northern end of town. Most of Newton's industrial development occurred in this section, in close proximity to the rail facilities and depot.<sup>23</sup>

Newton's development during the post-war era paralleled state-wide trends. The town experienced slow growth prior to about 1880, and rapid development thereafter. The population, which had been 219 in 1860, grew only to 323 in 1870 and 584 in 1880. The residents in 1880 lived in 111 dwellings, an increase of 57 in twenty years. Among them was the residence of Catawba College Professor John A. Foil, built about 1873 on South Main Avenue. Other new construction included the modest "cabins"<sup>24</sup> of freedmen, built after the Civil War in Snow Hill, a settlement located east of town.

Business slowly recovered from the effects of the war. By 1869, H. F. Carpenter had established a cotton gin. The number of professionals, tradesmen, and merchants gradually increased until, in 1880, Newton supported eleven carpenters, eight physicians,<sup>25</sup> seven merchants, six clerks, four lawyers, and three sewing machine salesmen. A brickyard operated by William Riley Self as early as 1880 probably supplied bricks for new commercial structures.<sup>26</sup> Among the black community were a variety of servants, laborers and artisans, many of whom bore the surnames of their former owners. Black tradesmen in 1880 included Gus Harris, a barber; Ed Harris, a carpenter; and Edward Morehead, a brick molder.<sup>27</sup>

During the two decades after 1880, Newton experienced increasing prosperity. The development of industry--especially textile mills--the physical growth of the town, and various improvements in public facilities characterized the trend. All of these changes took place in an essentially rural context, a fact reflected by farming operations within the town's corporate limits.

New businesses and industries joined established firms during the 1880s. By 1884, A. H. Sherrill and Sam Jarrett & Son operated building and contracting firms. William H. Williams presided over Newton Cotton Mills, a substantial steam-operated factory opened early in 1883 in the northeast section of town. The one-story brick carding and spinning facility, which operated 200 spindles, relied on machinery purchased in Lowell, Massachusetts. Michael, Sherrill & Co. produced tobacco products at their factory which was located at the corner of Pine and Eighth streets. By 1885, Rhyne, Mehaffey and

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Company had opened Newton Flouring Mill near the depot, about three-fourths of a mile north of the courthouse. Another mill, Killian & Cline, stood three blocks south of the courthouse. J. F. Finger's foundry and machine shop occupied land one-fourth mile northwest of the seat of government.<sup>28</sup> A visitor in 1886 noted the recent construction near Newton Cotton Mills of a shuttle block factory at which a variety of implements were manufactured from local hardwoods. Wheeden and Wanamaker, two northern capitalists, operated this concern. An annual mercantile trade of \$225,000 supplemented a considerable barter of local produce.<sup>29</sup>

The expansion of business and commerce continued during the next decade. Newton Hosiery Mill began operations at the corner of Pine and Seventh streets (31). A sash, door, and blind factory belonging to the firm of Finger and Dakin supplied building materials as early as 1897. Newton Cotton Mills enlarged its factory and expanded its capacity to include 7,500 spindles by 1902. Businesses carried a wider variety of merchandise, including furniture, millinery, marble products, and musical instruments.<sup>30</sup>

A substantial increase in population and concomitant improvements in public services accompanied the growth of business. Between 1880 and 1890, Newton's population increased from 584 to 1,038. Within another 10 years the town had a population of 1,583.<sup>31</sup> By 1887, Newton had acquired useful fire-fighting equipment. The Newton Enterprise reported on March 15, 1889, that steps would soon be taken to light the town with electric lights and complete the macadamizing of streets and paving of sidewalks. Some of the street lights<sup>32</sup> had been installed by November 1889, and more were being put up at that time.

The built environment changed apace. By 1888, county government had outgrown the antebellum courthouse. In June 1888, the county commissioners voted to enlarge the courthouse and improve its interior arrangement. Soon, a two-story addition to the rear of the building rose, giving the structure a "T" plan.<sup>33</sup> Other institutions built new buildings or renovated old ones. By 1886, four congregations had constructed churches along North Main Avenue. The following year the members of Grace Reformed Church began a new structure on Main Avenue, in the heart of the city. The Baptist congregation<sup>34</sup> built a church on the southeast corner of Main Avenue and Fifth Street prior to 1896. In 1885, Catawba High School returned to its original status as Catawba College. By 1896, the college, located at the south end of Main Avenue, had remodeled what came to be known as Matron's Hall for use by female students.<sup>35</sup> A newspaper writer noted in 1886 that a female academy, presided over by Stephen Frontis, had just been built.<sup>36</sup> A new depot containing a freight room, office,<sup>37</sup> and two waiting rooms was completed by April, 1892, at the bustling north end of town.

Considerable residential development accompanied this growth, but construction apparently did not keep pace with the demand for housing. In 1885, many homes were still located in the blocks surrounding the courthouse square, but a new trend soon emerged. The Newton Enterprise observed in 1887 that no rental properties in Newton lacked tenants: "Full houses speak well for a town; empty houses show no progress." Early the next year, the editor noted the recent construction of residences in different sections

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of town and predicted that carpenters could be busy in 1888.<sup>38</sup> Among the new houses of this period was the two-story brick home on West Seventh Street of L. L. Witherspoon, a local lawyer (88). An impressive Queen Anne-Style house belonging to George McCorkle, a prominent attorney and farmer, rose about 1890 on North Main Avenue near the industrial section.<sup>39</sup>

Perhaps the most significant residential development of this period, however, was Middlebrook, begun in the summer of 1891. On July 11, 1891, the Newton Land and Improvement Company auctioned 120 of 300 lots in a 100-acre parcel in "Eastern Newton," bounded by the two rail lines. A new cotton factory was to be the centerpiece of this neighborhood. Such prominent individuals as J. H. McClelland, E. M. Deal, J. R. Gaither, W. B. Gaither, George A. Warlick, and George McCorkle purchased lots. By September, eleven new houses, including those of Perry Deal and J. E. Fry, had been begun. The new factory company had started four houses for its future operatives.<sup>40</sup> The Newton Enterprise confidently stated that Middlebrook would open ". . . a new era for Newton. Many who have never before owned property here have bought the land on which they will build for themselves houses, and it opens up a place where the great demand for houses can be supplied."<sup>41</sup>

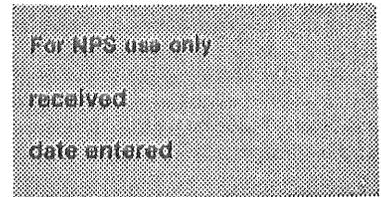
As late as 1891 the local newspaper claimed that Newton was a farming town. Townspeople grew surprisingly large quantities of corn and wheat within the corporate limits. The somewhat bucolic atmosphere soon would change, however. The first three decades of the twentieth century transformed the community into a larger, more heavily industrialized commercial center. During this ear of Newton's growth the North Main Avenue area experienced its principal phase of construction activity.

For twenty-five years after 1900, North Carolina, like the rest of the country, enjoyed considerable economic development and prosperity. Improved transportation facilities and the development of hydroelectric power fostered the changes. Production of such crops as cotton and tobacco expanded significantly, especially prior to 1920. The state's tobacco, wooden furniture, and textile industries outstripped agriculture as the chief source of wealth. In the first quarter of the century, the burgeoning textile industry in North Carolina led the nation in the production of cotton goods and the South in the manufacture of all knit goods.<sup>42</sup>

Newton secured its share of new industrial enterprises. By 1902, Catawba Cotton Mill had erected a one-story brick facility on North Main Avenue, near Newton Cotton Mills. John P. Yount served<sup>43</sup> as president. Within three years this enterprise had begun an expansion project. In 1905 D. J. Carpenter erected a factory<sup>44</sup> for producing pastboard boxes to be used by Newton Hosiery Mill and other concerns. Clyde Cotton Mills, a substantial yarn facility, was<sup>45</sup> in place by 1905 near the depot. R. B. Knox served as its secretary and treasurer. Despite a few lean years for the textile industry, the growth continued. Ridgeview<sup>46</sup> Hosiery Mill Company established its plant by 1910 one-third mile north of the depot. Later, Fidelity Hosiery Mill occupied the old buildings of Newton Hosiery Mill and expanded operations there. Additional enterprises developed during the 1910s and 1920s included City Cotton Mills, H. M. Yount's<sup>47</sup> glove factory, and Warlick Manufacturing Company, which produced woven dress goods.

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The prosperity was manifested also by the establishment of new businesses and the construction of solid blocks of brick buildings downtown. Such firms as the brickyard of Yount & McCall and the Gaither Manufacturing Company, a lumber concern, abetted the growth.<sup>48</sup> The Newton Enterprise reported in March 1905 that the building and loan association had been receiving applications for loans with which new storehouses would be built. By September of that year, contractor G. W. Setzer had nearly completed the walls of the new McClelland store building.<sup>49</sup> Virginia Shipp's three-story brick hotel rose on the corner of Third Street and College Avenue prior to June 1907. Between 1907 and 1924, the fronts of the blocks on the north, east, and south sides of the courthouse gained full complements of brick buildings.<sup>50</sup> These new facilities were patronized by a growing population.

The number of inhabitants steadily increased during the first three decades of the century. Between 1900 and 1910, the population rose from 1,583 to 2,316.<sup>51</sup> Ten years later 3,021 persons lived in Newton, and in 1930 the number had risen to 4,394.

Local government responded by providing improved services and facilities. The Newton Electric Light Company stood one-fourth of a mile west of the courthouse by 1902. The town installed a water system<sup>52</sup> by 1908. In September 1905, sidewalks were being installed around the courthouse square. By 1920, the town had gained eight miles of sidewalks and paved streets. G. W. Setzer built the graded school building on North Ashe Avenue in 1905 (33), and Thomas R. Owen, foreman for the J. J. Stroud Construction Company, supervised the construction of the town's first high school building in 1923 (43). The structure, also located on North Ashe Avenue, cost \$100,000.<sup>53</sup> Catawba's antebellum courthouse was replaced in 1924<sup>54</sup> with a granite-veneered structure designed by architect William G. Rogers of Charlotte.

Town ordinances adopted in 1915 testify to the local government's commitment to making Newton an attractive community. The regulations authorized "sanitary policemen" to inspect homes to insure that they were clean. The town prohibited the construction of frame buildings within Newton's fire limits and made it unlawful to ". . . write, print, or make signs or pictures, or to skate, either with roller skates or in any other manner, or to spit, place or throw filth, fruit or fruit peelings, or any other substance liable to cause pedestrians to slip or fall, upon any sidewalk or walk in any public place within the town." The ordinances warned that "Any person who shall, within the town or within 1 mile thereof keep any disorderly house, or keep any bawdy house or house of ill fame, shall pay a penalty of ten dollars . . . ." <sup>55</sup>

During the first quarter of the century, the construction of respectable dwellings continued at a rapid pace. As residential development expanded throughout the town, unprecedented construction occurred along North Main Avenue and in the area directly west of it. The local textile industry influenced much of this growth, although prominent lawyers, physicians, and merchants contributed to the trend.<sup>56</sup> Many new houses rose during the first five years of the century. Attorney Walter C. Feimster prepared, in October 1900, to build his imposing two-story residence on the west side of North Main Avenue, next to the home of A. J. Seagle (24, 23).<sup>57</sup> E. M. Deal, a brick manufacturer, constructed a one-story house about 1904 on the northeast corner of North Main Avenue

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and Eighth Street (7).<sup>58</sup> By March 1904, carpenters had completed the framing of hardware merchant Samuel L. Rhyne's two-story house on the west side of Main Avenue (demolished), next to the Lutheran Church (demolished).<sup>59</sup> A building and loan association organized about 1904 by cotton mill superintendent J. C. Smith, lumber dealer and merchant J. R. Gaither, and attorney William B. Gaither, among others, may have stimulated further construction activity. Houses were being built also in Middlebrook and in the northwestern part of town.<sup>60</sup> The Newton Enterprise reported in March 1905, that

Mr. J. R. Gaither, president of Gaither Manufacturing Company, tells us that this is going to be a great year for building in Newton. Even at this early part of the season, there is a great demand for lumber, and the carpenters are all busy.

.....  
This will be, by far, the busiest year in house building that Newton has ever had.<sup>61</sup>

Homeowners continued to build residences on North Main Avenue between the present Fourth and Eighth streets until, by the mid-1920s, most lots had been filled. By 1910, many influential citizens lived there: William Trott, a grocery store salesman, Harry Smith, superintendent of a cotton mill; Milton Deal, foreman of a brickyard; James H. McLelland, secretary of the building and loan association; John Wagner, foreman of an ice factory; George Warlick, manager of a roller mill; physician H. W. Everhart; T. Walter Long, a doctor; Mary Gaither; Bill Wilfong; William B. Gaither; Andrew J. Seagle; Walter C. Feimster; Rufus P. Freize, a retired merchant; Robert Knox, a manufacturer of cotton yarn; physician George A. West; and Samuel H. Rhyne.<sup>62</sup> Among the homes built later on North Main Avenue was the brick bungalow of D. B. Gaither, constructed shortly before July 1922 (4).<sup>63</sup>

Concurrently, residences rose in the neighborhood west of North Main Avenue, including the present North Ashe Avenue, Cline Street, and streets running perpendicular to Ashe and Main avenues, between Fourth and Eighth streets. Some of these were in place before 1910, but most of them date from the 1910s and 1920s.<sup>64</sup> D. J. Carpenter inhabited an imposing residence on North Ashe Avenue, near the hosiery mill, prior to 1907 (44, 31).<sup>65</sup> When R. B. Knox built a residence on North Main Avenue prior to 1910, the Bost home which had stood on the property was moved westward and turned to face Ashe Avenue (25, 32).<sup>66</sup> The house located at the northwest corner of North Ashe Avenue and West Sixth Street was built about 1910 by D. J. Carpenter for one of his employees.<sup>67</sup> Residents who built residences in the neighborhood about 1922 included F. E. Garvin (69), George Powell (61), and Dr. Wade C. Raymer (9).<sup>68</sup>

Buoyed by improved roads and additional industrial development during and after the 1920s, Newton continued to grow. Highway 10, which facilitated East-West travel, followed Main Avenue through town. Newton, like the neighboring cities of Hickory, Lenoir, and Statesville, attracted furniture factories, including the Southern Furniture Company. Such firms as the Carolina Glove Company, founded in 1943, maintained the town's reputation as a textile producer.<sup>69</sup> The population reached 6,039 in 1950, and steadily increased during the ensuing decade.

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Newton's continued growth has left the North Main Avenue Historic District largely unchanged. Although some residences in the district have new owners and the buildings constructed for Fidelity Hosiery Mill and the high school no longer serve their original purposes, the section reflects considerable continuity. Many homes remain in the hands of the families who built them. North Main Avenue, with its churches and impressive residences, continues to be a fashionable and important corridor. The recently constructed houses of J. C. Rudisill and druggist Edward Haupt (26, 21) constitute impressive additions to a neighborhood that originated before the Civil War and flourished during Newton's heyday as a significant textile center.

FOOTNOTES:

<sup>1</sup>The commissioners were B. C. Allen, Lawson Lawrence, Thomas Clonniger, Daniel Lutz, Joseph Wilson, Alexander M'Caskill, and Daniel Finger. Laws of North Carolina, 1842-1843, c. 8, 9. Newton was named for Isaac Newton Wilson, son of Nathaniel Wilson, the member of the General Assembly who in 1842 introduced the bill authorizing the creation of Catawba County. William S. Powell, The North Carolina Gazetteer (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1969), 351.

<sup>2</sup>Mathias Setzer, Jacob Deal, and Jacob McGee to Jonas Bost, April 18, 1843, Catawba County Deeds, Book 1, p. 53, microfilm copy, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh; Charles J. Preslar, Jr., (ed.), A History of Catawba County (Salisbury: Catawba County Historical Association, 1954), 50-54, 160, hereinafter cited as Preslar, History of Catawba County. Hereinafter the Division of Archives and History will be cited as DAH.

<sup>3</sup>Minutes of the Catawba County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, June 1844 term, entries for June 10-11, 1844, Archives, DAH. Hereinafter this source will be cited as Catawba County Court Minutes. Setzer received \$29 for his work. McGee, probably a carpenter, had purchased 157 acres in 1839 from George Smyre. Located on Smyre's Mill Creek, all of the property likely was eventually incorporated into the town. A significant portion of the North Main Avenue Historic District apparently is situated on what was originally McGee's property. George Smyre to Jacob McGee, February 19, 1939, Lincoln County Deeds, Book 38, p. 592; O. Campbell to M. L. Cline, July 12, 1867, Catawba County Deeds, Book 6, p. 168; M. L. Cline to S. L. Yount, April 4, 1881, Catawba County Deeds, Book 13, p. 581, microfilm copies, Archives, DAH; "An Inventory of the property of James (sic) McGees Deceased, as Sold by the Administratrix on the 7 and 8 days of Nov 1848," Catawba County Inventories and Accounts of Sales, 1843-1862, C.R. 021.514.1, Archives, DAH. The inventory lists a considerable number of carpenter's tools and various building materials.

<sup>4</sup>Catawba County Court Minutes, June 1844 term, entry for June 11, 1844. Bost (1794-1870), the son of Elias and Mary Ikerd Bost, was born in Lincoln County (later Catawba). The 1850 census listed Bost as a house carpenter possessing real estate valued at \$4,000. He owned 700 acres of land, 100 of which produced considerable quantities of corn and oats. Bost owned eight slaves in 1850. "Jonas Bost," genealogical notes in files of the Survey and Planning Branch, DAH; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Catawba County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 3; Slave Inhabitants Schedule, 176; Productions of Agriculture Schedule, 219-220, manuscript copy, Archives, DAH, hereinafter cited as Seventh Census, 1850, with appropriate schedule and page number.

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<sup>5</sup>Catawba County Court Minutes, April 1845 term, entry for April 22, 1845; June 1845 term, entry for June 9, 1845; Carolina Watchman (Salisbury), June 28, 1845. Commissioner Craig probably was Francis Burton Craige (1811-1875), a lawyer and farmer from Salisbury, who served as a Democrat in the U. S. House of Representatives during the 1850s and early 1860s. William S. Powell (ed), Dictionary of North Carolina Biography (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press (projected multivolume series), 1979-), I, 453.

<sup>6</sup>Catawba County Court Minutes, April 1847 term, entry for April 19, 1847. According to a high school essay, Jonas Bost built the courthouse and jail for \$9,000. William Lonigan and Son supposedly did the brickwork. This writer was unable to corroborate these assertions in county court minutes or other primary sources. A printed source claims that William Lenargin was a brick mason who built the courthouse. "History of Newton," unpublished essay, c. 1919-1920, Catawba County Historical Museum, Newton; Preslar, History of Catawba County, 360.

<sup>7</sup>Catawba County Court Minutes, October 1845 term, entry for October 21, 1845; December 1845 term, entry for December 9, 1845.

<sup>8</sup>Hugh Talmage Lefler and Albert Ray Newsome, North Carolina: The History of a Southern State (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, third edition, 1973), 359, hereinafter cited as Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina; Seventh Census, 1850, Population Schedule, 1-2.

<sup>9</sup>Seventh Census, 1850, Productions of Agriculture Schedule, 219-220; Slave Inhabitants Schedule, 176-177.

<sup>10</sup>The two Grecian painters were Harietta Brumfield, wife of cabinetmaker James Brumfield, of Virginia, and Sophronia Herser, who lived in the Brumfield household. Eighth Census of the United States, 1860: Catawba County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 1-8, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, North Carolina State Library, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as Eighth Census, 1860, Population Schedule; Slave Inhabitants Schedule, 423-424; Products of Industry Schedule, 505, manuscript copies, Archives, DAH.

<sup>11</sup>Eighth Census, 1860, Population Schedule, 1-8; A. J. Seagle purchased a 2-acre lot on North Main Avenue in 1861 from M. I. Pool. Tax records suggest that a house stood on the lot before Seagle purchased it, but it is possible that Seagle later altered it. The same tax records suggest that houses owned by the Barrier and Rudisill families had been constructed prior to the Civil War. M. I. Pool to A. J. Seagle, January 1, 1861, Catawba County Deeds, Book 6, p. 30; List of Taxables, 1857, 1860, 1862, Catawba County List of Taxables, 1857-1868, C. R. 021.701.1, Archives, DAH.

<sup>12</sup>Geo. W. Hahn, The Catawba Soldier of the Civil War (Hickory: Clay Printing Company, 1911), 72-74, hereinafter cited as Hahn, Catawba Soldier in the Civil War; Jacob Calvin Leonard, History of Catawba College (9n.p.: Catawba College Trustees, 1927), 27, 31, 35-36, 62, hereinafter cited as Leonard, History of Catawba College.

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<sup>13</sup> Preslar, History of Catawba County, 116-119.

<sup>14</sup> Private Laws of North Carolina, 1854-1855, c. 247.

<sup>15</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 461-464.

<sup>16</sup> Hahn, Catawba Soldier in the Civil War, 89-195.

<sup>17</sup> Leonard, History of Catawba College, 72-73.

<sup>18</sup> Preslar, History of Catawba County, 280.

<sup>19</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 505-517, 520-529. Although improved rail facilities were built after the war, it was not until the 1880s and 1890s that considerable construction activity took place.

<sup>20</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 380, 515-516; Third Annual Report of the Western North-Carolina Railroad Company, Executive and Legislative Documents, Session 1858-1859, Document No. 17, pp. 5-6; Fourth Annual Report of the Western North-Carolina Railroad Company, Executive and legislative Documents, Session 1858-1859, Document No. 18, p. 13; Proceedings of the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, August 30th, 1860, Executive and Legislative Documents, Session 1860-1861, Document No. 21, pp. 2, 4, 29.

<sup>21</sup> Newton Enterprise, June 9, July 7, 1883; "Annual Report of the Chester and Lenoir Narrow Gauge Rail Road Company to the Interstate Commerce Commission of the United States for the Year Ending June 30, 1894," form publication completed by the railroad, North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill, 3; Levi Branson (ed.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory for 1884 (Raleigh: Levi Branson, Office Publisher, 1884), xxxi, hereinafter cited as Branson, N.C. Business Directory, 1884.

<sup>22</sup> Newton Enterprise, December 22, 1887.

<sup>23</sup> R. A. Yoder, Map of Catawba County, North Carolina (Newton: R. A. Yoder, 1886), hereinafter cited as Yoder, Map of Catawba County.

<sup>24</sup> Ninth Census of the United States. Statistics of Population (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1872), 221; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Catawba County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 486-491, manuscript copy, Archives, DAH, hereinafter cited as Tenth Census, 1880; Observer-News-Enterprise (Newton), June 19, 1880, hereinafter cited as Observer-News-Enterprise; Observer-News-Enterprise Friday Magazine (Newton), March 16 & 21, 1884; Western Piedmont Council of Governments, Historic Sites Inventory, Region E (Hickory: Western Piedmont Council of Governments, 1975), 79, 82, hereinafter cited as Western Piedmont Council of Governments, Historic Sites Inventory; Newton Enterprise, March 29, 1884. The latter source includes an account of a cyclone that damaged many buildings in Newton on March 25, 1884. They included Professor Foil's residence and eight Negro cabins.

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<sup>25</sup>Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, for 1869 (Raleigh: J. A. Jones, Publisher, 1869), 34.

<sup>26</sup>Tenth Census, 1880, Population Schedule, 1-8; Tenth Census, 1880, Special schedules of Manufactures 5 and 6, Newton Township, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Archives, DAH. For a summary of the extensive business operations of this local builder and entrepreneur, see the Self-Trott-Bickett House National Register of Historic Places nomination, in files of the Survey and Planning Branch, DAH, hereinafter cited as Self-Trott-Bickett House Nomination.

<sup>27</sup>Ninth Census of the United States: Catawba County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, 595-598, manuscript copy, Archives, DAH; Tenth Census, 1880, Population Schedule, 486-491.

<sup>28</sup>Branson, N. C. Business Directory, 1884, 197; Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, Newton, N.C. (New York: Sanborn Map & Publishing Company, 1885), hereinafter cited as Sanborn Map of Newton, 1885; Newton Enterprise, February 3, 1883.

<sup>29</sup>"Sparkling Catawba," newspaper clipping, 1886, North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill, hereinafter cited as "Sparkling Catawba"; Yoder, Map of Catawba County.

<sup>30</sup>Levi Branson (ed.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1897 (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1897), 168-169; Sanborn Map Company, Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1902), hereinafter cited as Sanborn Map of Newton, 1902; Sanborn Map Company, Newton, Catawba Co., N.C. (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1896), hereinafter cited as Sanborn Map of Newton, 1896. By 1905, the hosiery mill was in the hands of D. J. Carpenter. The North Carolina Year Book and Business Directory, 1905 (Raleigh: News and Observer, 1905), 161. Hereinafter, this source will be cited as North Carolina Year Book, with appropriate date.

<sup>31</sup>United States Census Office, [Twelfth Census of the United States. Part I, Population] Washington: United States Census Office, 2 volumes, 1902), I, 288.

<sup>32</sup>Newton Enterprise, November 17, 1887; March 15, November 15, 1889.

<sup>33</sup>Newton Enterprise, June 7, 1888; Sanborn-Perris Map Company, Newton, Catawba County, N.C. (New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1890).

<sup>34</sup>Yoder, Map of Catawba County; Newton Enterprise, September 22, 1887; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1896.

<sup>35</sup>Because of financial difficulties, Catawba College was moved from Newton to Salisbury in the early 1920s. Leonard, History of Catawba College, 88, 99, 236-237, 273; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1896.

<sup>36</sup>"Sparkling Catawba."

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<sup>37</sup> Newton Enterprise, April 22, 1892.

<sup>38</sup> Sanborn Map of Newton, 1885; Newton Enterprise, November 10, 1887; January 12, 1888.

<sup>39</sup> Local tradition holds that when William R. Self constructed a two-story brick house on South College Avenue between 1881 and 1883, he gave the plans to Sidney L. Yount who built a similar house on West Seventh Street. Young apparently never lived in the house, for he sold it to L. L. Witherspoon on January 1, 1884. Although the interior woodwork of the house appears to reflect a much earlier style, it is similar to that found in the Self-Trott-Bickett House. The Witherspoon House was built on land originally owned by Jacob McGee. Self-Trott-Bickett House Nomination; S. L. Yount to L. L. Witherspoon, January 1, 1884, Catawba County Deeds, Book 20, p. 99; Long, McCorkle, and Miller Houses National Register of Historic Places Nomination, in files of the Survey and Planning Branch, DAH; Levi Branson (ed.), Branson's North Carolina Business Directory, 1897 (Raleigh: Levi Branson, 1897), 167.

<sup>40</sup> Newton Enterprise, May 29, July 17, September 11, 1891. The Sanborn map published in 1896 does not show a new cotton mill. Sanborn Map of Newton, 1896.

<sup>41</sup> Newton Enterprise, July 17, 1891.

<sup>42</sup> Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 576-582.

<sup>43</sup> Sanborn Map of Newton, 1902; North Carolina Year Book, 1905, 161; Newton Enterprise, March 24, 1905.

<sup>44</sup> Newton Enterprise, September 1, 1905.

<sup>45</sup> North Carolina Year Book, 1905, 161; Sanborn Map Company, Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1907), 1, hereinafter cited as Sanborn Map of Newton, 1907.

<sup>46</sup> North Carolina Year Book, 1910, 133; Sanborn Map Company, Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1913), 4, hereinafter cited as Sanborn Map of Newton, 1913; Newton Enterprise, June 9, 1910. This company was formed by George A. Warlick, L. F. Long, J. A. Gaither, W. C. Gaither, John Isenhour, P. E. Isenhour, and W. R. Frye. Observer-News-Enterprise Catawba Report, January, 1969.

<sup>47</sup> Sanborn Map Company, Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1924), 4, hereinafter cited as Sanborn Map of Newton, 1924; Sanborn Map Company, Newton, Catawba County, North Carolina (New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1932), hereinafter cited as Sanborn Map of Newton, 1932; Observer-News-Enterprise (Newton), July 25, 1922, hereinafter cited as Catawba News-Enterprise (Newton), July 25, 1922, hereinafter cited as Catawba News-Enterprise. A promotional tract published in 1923 claimed that Newton's various enterprises hired 1,500 employees who earned \$600,000 a year, and produced annually 1,500,000 pounds of cotton yarns, nearly 7,000,000 yards of print cloth and cotton flannels, 250,000 dozen cotton canvas gloves, and immense quantities of cotton, wool, and silk hose. A cotton seed oil mill supposedly possessed the capacity to process daily 20 tons of seed into oil, hulls, meal, and fertilizer. Newton and Catawba County, North Carolina: "The Land of Promise" (n.p.: Newton Kiwanis Club International, (1923), hereinafter cited as Newton and Catawba County, North Carolina.

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<sup>48</sup> North Carolina Business Directory, 1905, 161; Newton Enterprise, April 15, 1904.

<sup>49</sup> Newton Enterprise, March 17, 1905; September 15, 1905.

<sup>50</sup> Sanborn Map of Newton, 1907; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1913, 2; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1924, 3.

<sup>51</sup> U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fifteenth Census of the United States 1930 (Washington: Government Printing Office, multivolume series, 1931), I, 786.

<sup>52</sup> Sanborn Map of Newton, 1902; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1913; 1; Newton Enterprise, September 8, 1905. The city installed the electric light plant shortly before April, 1898. Newton Enterprise, April 1, 1898.

<sup>53</sup> Newton Enterprise, September 8, 15, 1905; Observer-News-Enterprise, December 11, 1974; Newton and Catawba County, North Carolina, 9. The high school building burned and was rebuilt in the 1930s. The graded school was enlarged and remodeled, also in the 1930s. Observer-News-Enterprise, November 10, 1983.

<sup>54</sup> Robert P. Burns, 100 Courthouses: A Report on North Carolina Judicial Facilities (Raleigh: North Carolina State University School of Design and North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts, 2 volumes, 1978), II, 107.

<sup>55</sup> Ordinances of the Town of Newton, North Carolina (Newton: News Print, 1915), 2-3, 5-6, 12, 19, Catawba County Library, Newton.

<sup>56</sup> Two pamphlets containing photographs of Catawba College and Newton provide an excellent view of some of the town's impressive residences. See Views of Catawba College and Newton, N.C. (n.p.: n.p., [c. 1907]) and Views of Catawba College and Newton (n.p.: n.p., [c. 1911]), both in the Catawba County Library, Newton. Hereinafter, they will be cited as Views of Catawba College and Newton, 1907 and Views of Catawba College and Newton, 1911, respectively.

<sup>57</sup> Newton Enterprise, October 26, 1900; Views of Catawba College and Newton, 1911.

<sup>58</sup> Author's interview with Mrs. Everette Deal, Newton, July 26, 1984 (notes on interview in files of the Survey and Planning Branch, DAH), hereinafter cited as Deal interview; North Carolina Year Book, 1905, 161.

<sup>59</sup> Newton Enterprise, January 8, March 18, 1904; Views of Catawba College and Newton, 1911; Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910; Catawba County, North Carolina, Population Schedule, Town of Newton, sheets 2-3, microfilm of National Archives manuscript copy, Archives, DAH, hereinafter cited as Thirteenth Census, 1910, with appropriate sheet number.

<sup>60</sup> Newton Enterprise, August 17, 1904, March 17, 1905; North Carolina Year Book, 1905, 160. The builders and contractors responsible for this construction were J. Sid Deal, R. P. Dakin, H. M. Travis, George Setzer, Miles Sigmon, and Dan Hoke.

<sup>61</sup> Newton Enterprise, March 17, 1905.

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<sup>62</sup> Sanborn Map of Newton, 1907, 3; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1913, 3-4; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1924, 4-6; Thirteenth Census, 1910, sheets 2-3.

<sup>63</sup> Catawba News-Enterprise, July 25, 1922.

<sup>64</sup> Sanborn Map of Newton, 1907, 3; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1913, 1,3; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1924, 4, 6, 8; Sanborn Map of Newton, 1932, 10. These maps reveal also extensive construction of mill housing in the northern and eastern sections of town.

<sup>65</sup> Views of Catawba County and Newton, 1907; author's interview with Frank Clapp, Newton, July 26, 1984 (notes on interview in files of the Survey and Planning Branch, DAH), hereinafter cited as Clapp interview.

<sup>66</sup> Deal interview.

<sup>67</sup> D. J. Carpenter-Snyder House file, Survey and Planning Branch, DAH.

<sup>68</sup> Catawba News-Enterprise, July 25, 1922.

<sup>69</sup> Preslar, History of Catawba County, 482-487, 493; Lefler and Newsome, North Carolina, 583; Clapp interview.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Newton, N. C.

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

**UTM References**

A 

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E 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification**

See continuation sheet and map of the district.

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state		code	county		code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Statement of Significance and Criteria Assessment by Davyd Foard Hood  
Architectural Description and Inventory List by Kirk F. Mohney  
Historical Research Report by Maurice C. York

organization Survey and Planning Branch date 1984 - 1985  
Archaeology and Historic Preservation Section

street & number Division of Archives and History telephone (919) 733-6545  
109 East Jones Street

city or town Raleigh state North Carolina 27611

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national     state     local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature William S. Fain, Jr. date February 4, 1986

title State Historic Preservation Officer

**For NPS use only**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Continuation sheet North Main Avenue Item number 10 Page 1

Historic District Boundary Description.

Commencing at the intersection of the center lines of N. Main Avenue and W. 9th St. and proceeds west along W. 9th St. to the intersection of N. Ashe Ave. There the boundary proceeds north along the center line of N. Ashe Ave. then west along the north property line of #902 N. Ashe Ave. It turns south along the rear line of said property and runs to the center line of W. 9th St. thereafter, the boundary follows the rear property lines of #s 832, 828, 820; a vacant lot (formerly #808), and 802 N. Ashe Ave. intersecting the center line of W. 8th St. turning due west and proceeding along said center line, it turns south at the west property line of #308 W. 7th St. The boundary subsequently continues westward along the back property line of #s 308 and 316 W. 7th St. until it meets the center line of N. Deal Ave. Turning south on N. Deal Ave. the boundary then proceeds west along the center line of W. 7th St. and then south on the west property line of #409 W. 7th St. and the rear property lines of #s 622, 616 and 600 N. Deal Ave. to the center line of W. 6th St. It turns to the east and then south along the west property line of #403 W. 6th St. to the rear line. Turning east it crosses N. Deal Ave. and runs on the rear property lines of #s 315, 309, and 303 W. 6th St. to the center line of N. Cline Ave. The boundary turns south on said center line and then east at the south property line of #411 N. Cline Ave. The line turns north at the rear property line of #411 and follows the rear line of #417 and then turns east along the back property lines of #s 205, 203, 125, and 117 W. 6th St. It intersects the back line of #424 N. Ashe Ave., turns south along the property lines of #s 420 and 400 N. Ashe Ave. and meets the center line of W. 4th St. From here it proceeds eastward along said line to the center line of N. Main Ave. Following the center line of N. Main Ave. the boundary runs north and then turns east along the south property line of #427 N. Main Ave; it follows the rear and north lines of said property back to the center line of N. Main Ave. Running northward with said center line, the boundary subsequently turns east along the center line of E. 5th St. and then runs north along the rear property lines of vacant lots and #s 509, 603, 615, 621, 699, 731, 809, 815, and 825 N. Main Ave. It proceeds due west along the north property line of #825 N. Main Ave., intersects the center line of N. Main Ave., and runs northward to the point of beginning.

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Boundary Justification:

The North Main Avenue Historic District contains the greatest share of Newton's historic residential, educational, religious, and industrial resources. A cohesive group of mid to late nineteenth century as well as early twentieth dwellings surround two historic school buildings, two churches, and a former mill. The neighborhood and its boundary is clearly distinct from modern commercial development to the south and north, the railroad to the east, and more recent or substantially altered residential areas to the west and northwest.



